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# goal!! weekly

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ON GEORGE CROSS'  
MARTIN JOHN**

**CLUB SPOTLIGHT  
ON SOUTH HOBART**

# SKY'S THE LIMIT!

**SOCZEROOS EMBARK  
ON WORLD CUP ODYSSEY**

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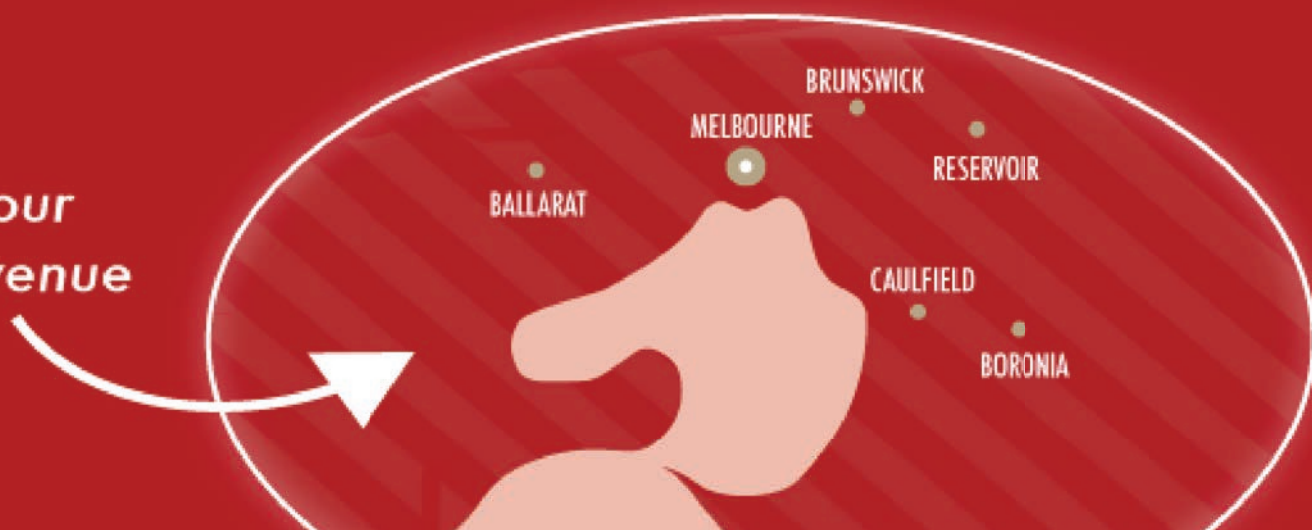
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**Advertising:** 03 9551 7538

**Email:** news@goalweekly.com  
**Letters:** mailbag@goalweekly.com  
**Web:** www.goalweekly.com

**Editor:** Costa Koutropoulos  
**Art Director:** Carlos Ibarra  
**Design:** Ivan Andreevski

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Aritro Adebini, Nat Adamopoulos, Mark Boric, Bruce Darnell, Lee Galiardi, Russ Gibbs, Andrew Fisher, Roy Hay, Markian Jaworsky, George Katsamboukas, Eddie Krncevic, Jarrod Ellis, Francis Fields, John Fotinos, Matt Galea, Russ Gibbs, Bart Hulley, Adam Hussein, Peter Katholos, Jacob Kagi, John Kyrou, Sebastian Kipman, George Kouroumalis, Michael Lilikakis, Josip Loncaric, Craig MacKenzie, Alex Milic, Ashley Morrison, Adam North, Jeremy O'Neil, Teo Pellizzeri, Kieran Pender, Walter Pless, Tony Persoglia, Leroy Robinson, Julius Ross, Roger Sleeman, Mike Salter, Luke Sheehan, Con Stamocostas, George Stogiannou, Reuben Schembri, Lachlan Taylor, Elias Simopoulos, Michal Skrodsky, Addy Wetzler, Bruno Zovko.

Photographers

Adam Butler, Therese Duffy, Daniel Flis, Dean Grant, Carlos Furtado, Geoff Jones, Peter Kakalias, Darryl Kennedy, Paul Lau, Lee McCormick, Mark McGeady, Brett McDonald, Anita Milas, Peter Psarros, John Punshon, Brett Robson, Steve Starek, George Stogiannou.

# OPEN LETTER TO MAXWELL GRATTON

**Dear Maxwell,**  
I note with both surprise and trepidation that in your role as FFV Operations Manager (Special Projects & Discipline) you have cited Sunshine George Cross and player Kyle Joryeff with two counts of misconduct and summoned them to appear before the tribunal on Wednesday night.

Both parties have been charged in relation to an alleged breach of clause 3.2 of the 2010 FFV registrations regulations which deems it an offence to pay more than \$100 per week to amateur (that is, non-contract) players.

My surprise relates to the continued existence of such a clause in our registrations regulations while readily acknowledging that you no doubt performed your role professionally by investigating the matter and concluding that both parties have a case to answer.

In essence, you were left with little choice given the continued existence of one of the most archaic clauses among those regulations.

Indeed, I put it to you, Maxwell, that

paying amateur players more than \$100 per week is not just commonplace, it underpins the very nature of our competition.

Almost every club in Premier League and throughout all three tiers of State League competition are in breach of this clause. So are many, many clubs in Provisional ranks.

You have my word that in State One payments regularly exceed the \$100 limit for amateur players and by a considerable margin. There are non-contract players at that level of competition receiving in excess of \$600 per week and I know of many \$200 a week (and more) deals for players in State Two and State Three competitions.

But those clubs do not deliberately go out to flaunt the registration rules. No, they find themselves driven by a desire for success and the necessary element of attracting quality players to their club.

I feel certain that many of your FFV colleagues are aware of this and I am just as certain that they understand the realities of competing in today's day and

age.

In essence, I believe that Wednesday night's tribunal hearing has the potential to strike at the very heart of our sport in this state.

While clause 3.2 is likely well intentioned it has become impractical. The reality is that few if any clubs heed this clause. They're too busy trying to win promotion or avoid relegation and a clause that limits their payments to the measly sum of \$100 is simply an impediment to successful competition.

So if the tribunal finds George Cross and Kyle Joryeff guilty and penalises the club with a points deduction or fines the player there is a clear message there and it's one that threatens to see season 2010 unravel.

For FFV cannot be seen to discriminate against one club. No, you will have to spend the rest of this lifetime and the next pursuing every club under the federation's banner, clubs who are guilty of doing nothing more than trying to be successful. Of taking up the gauntlet of competition.



It's long overdue for commonsense to prevail in relation to clause 3.2. And I can well understand George Cross feeling aggrieved at having to answer such a charge. No doubt the club is asking itself why it has been singled out. I'm asking the same question,  
— CRAIG MACKENZIE

# Pim names 28-man World Cup squad

**Qantas Socceroos Head Coach Pim Verbeek named the 28 players that he will take to South Africa as he prepares his squad for the 2010 FIFA World Cup which begins next month.**

Speaking at a media conference in Melbourne, Verbeek also announced that **Nick Carle, Scott McDonald and Jade North** would not be travelling to South Africa with the Qantas Socceroos having been originally named in the preliminary list of players earlier this month.

"Tomorrow we leave and we will take with us 28 players which means we leave three players here in Australia," said Verbeek.

"Jade North will not be coming with us as there is too much competition for his position.

"In Nicky Carle's position I have enough players who can do the job too.

"Scott McDonald will also not be with us. Scott plays his best football when there are two players upfront and that does not fit into the structure we are going to play.

"Scotty plays at Middleborough with two strikers and we don't play with two strikers, we play with one upfront and he does not fit into that system and he knows it.

Verbeek also added that the selection of younger players, James Holland and Tommy Oar, was more to provide experience and that they are unlikely to make the final 23-man squad.

"I spoke with the FFA (Football Federation Australia) and I want to take two younger players to get some World Cup experience and they are Tommy Oar and James Holland and they are part of the group.

"I have to make a decision on the 1st of June, and anything can happen in football, but they know unless there are some



Pim Verbeek with Socceroo captain, Lucas Neil, during the week.

PHOTO: SYDNEY LOW

injuries to other players they will not be part of that 23.

"It is great that FFA will spend the money so that they can get valuable experience and be part of a FIFA World Cup and these players will stay with us as long as we stay in South Africa.

"They are players for the future and you take extra players so you can train and have extra variation and can play a full eleven on eleven and still be able to rest players if need be.

"My experience is that by having a larger training group you are able to get the team in the best condition for playing the matches," concluded Verbeek.

As per FIFA regulations, Verbeek will name his final squad of 23 players on Saturday 1st June in South Africa.

The Qantas Socceroos will depart for Johannesburg on Wednesday 26th May on the special Qantas "Socceroos" Boeing 747 flight out of Melbourne. As part of their final preparations for the 2010 FIFA World Cup the Qantas Socceroos will play international friendly matches against Denmark and the United States of America (USA) on the 1st and 5th June, respectively, at Ruimsig Stadium near Johannesburg.

The Qantas Socceroos have been drawn in Group D for the 2010 FIFA World Cup and will face Germany in their opening match of the tournament on Sunday 13th June in Durban, followed by matches against Ghana on Saturday 19th June and then Serbia on Wednesday 23rd June.



- Michael BEAUCHAMP
- Mark BRESCIANO
- Tim CAHILL
- David CARNEY
- Scott CHIPPERFIELD
- Jason CULINA
- Brett EMERTON
- Adam FEDERICI
- Eugene GALEKOVIC\*
- Richard GARCIA
- Vincenzo GRELLA
- James HOLLAND
- Brett HOLMAN
- Mile JEDINAK
- Brad JONES
- Josh KENNEDY
- Harry KEWELL
- Shane LOWRY
- Mark MILLIGAN
- Craig MOORE
- Lucas NEILL
- Tom OAR
- Nikita RUKAVYTSYA
- Mark SCHWARZER
- Carl VALERI
- Dario VIDOSIC
- Luke WILKSHIRE
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# Australia steals a result against New Zealand

By Roy Hay

**The scorecard will show a two-one win to the Socceroos in its final home game before the World Cup at the MCG last Wednesday night against New Zealand, but this was very unfair to the All Whites who deserved something from the encounter.**

The Australia team looked very different from the eleven likely to take the field against Germany next month.

Mark Schwarzer, Brett Emerton, Scott Chipperfield, and Harry Kewell were all rested and Australia started without Luke Wilkshire for the first time, when he was available, since before the last World Cup in 2006. Dario Vidosic came in to the midfield and Mark Milligan took Wilkshire’s place on the right side of the back four.

David Carney was on the left, Scott McDonald the lone attacker and Adam Federici made his debut in goal.

Ricki Herbert was in the Hilton less than a couple of hours before the game, looking totally relaxed. I said, ‘I can’t wish you luck tonight, but all the very best for South Africa.’ His starting eleven was the same which got the critical result away to Bahrain which resulted in qualification for the All Whites.

New Zealand played Australia off the park in the first 30 minutes and deservedly took the lead after 16, when Simon Elliot’s diagonal cross was flicked on by Shane Smeltz.

Middlesbrough and former Celtic striker Chris Killen slid in at the far post to knock the ball home via Adam Federici’s leg.

Some of the Australian tackling was fairly agricultural, particularly a two-footed lunge by Vince Grella which took out Leo Bertos in 27 minutes. That got a yellow card, but it could have easily been red. Mark Milligan had been booked for an earlier foul on Tony Lochhead.

Four minutes later Tim Cahill also collected Bertos, though this time it was less premeditated, but the winger had to leave the field on a stretcher and his World Cup campaign may be affected. Reports later suggested a gash and bleeding rather than structural damage. He was replaced by Winston Reid.

Australia looked bereft of attacking capacity until the last fifteen minutes of the half when they began to concoct some passing movements.

There was a raft of substitutions at half-time and Australia carried on from where it ended the first half.

In 57 minutes Jason Culina made space on the edge of the box and as he was about to send the ball forward Chris Killen challenged and it looped up over Ryan Nelsen for Dario Vidosic to finish from close range.

That was just about as much as Australia deserved and the last half hour was relatively even with both sides having chances to score.

The All Whites should have gone ahead again when substitute Tommy Smith, who was not on the team sheet, sent in a cross and Rory Fallon headed it straight at Brad Jones whose reaction save kept Australia level.

The match went into injury time still locked at one-all but after the announced three extra minutes had been played the result was stolen in 94th minute by Brett Holman.

The often-maligned attacking midfielder took part in a move with David Carney and then he sprinted past the defence to get on the end of a chip from Carl Valeri.

It sent the Australian fans into raptures but was more than the team deserved, as coach Pim Verbeek agreed after the match.

He was particularly critical of Australia’s play in that first half-hour. ‘We had a hard training session this week, but I expected more. We were rusty, we lacked confidence and we could not keep the ball. We expected New Zealand to come at us but we did not play well in the first half.’

‘If we had to play Germany on Saturday we would be in trouble, but we have three weeks to prepare, we have no injuries and we have some good training ahead.’

He was equally forthright about the tackling and took both Cahill and Grella off at half-time as much to protect them from payback as because they had each received a card. He also pointed out that New Zealand players had not retaliated and played professionally throughout. ‘Ours did not.’

Verbeek’s honesty is very refreshing, as was the whole approach of Ricky Herbert who could easily have inflamed the situation by criticism of the Australians. Instead he concentrated on the positives for his squad of a hit out against a strong, higher-ranked team, which gave everyone a taste of what they will be up against in South Africa. Nevertheless when I met him after the game, I could say, equally honestly, ‘You wuz robbed.’ He just smiled.

**International Friendly match  
Australia 2 (Dario Vidosic 57’, Brett Holman 94’)  
New Zealand 1 (Chris Killen 16’)  
MCG Melbourne  
Monday 24 May 2010  
Referee Ricardo Salazar (USA)  
Assistant referees: Hakan Anaz and Luke Brennan  
Fourth official: Chris Beath  
Crowd: 55,659**

**Australian line-up: 1 Adam FEDERICI (18 Brad JONES 45’), 2 Lucas NEILL (captain), 3 Craig MOORE (6 Michael BEAUCHAMP 45’), 4 Tim CAHILL (16 Carl VALERI 45’), 5 Jason CULINA, 10 Dario VIDOSIC (22 Tommy OAR 78’), 13 Vincenzo GRELLA (14 Brett HOLMAN 45’), 17 Scott MCDONALD (11 Nick RUKAVYTSYA 72’), 20 Mark MILLIGAN, 23 Marco BRESCIANO (7 Mile JEDINAK 45’).**

**Substitutes not used: 8 James HOLLAND, 15 Shane LOWRY, 19 Nick CARLE, 24 Eugene GALEKOVIC (RGK).**

**Yellow cards: Mark MILLIGAN 23’, Vincenzo GRELLA 27’, Tim CAHILL 31’  
Red cards: Nil**

**New Zealand line-up: 1 Mark PASTON, 2 Ben SIGMUND, 3 Tony LOCHEAD (Michael MCGLINCHEY 45’), 5 Ivan VICELEICH (18 Andrew BOYENS 51’), 6 Ryan NELSEN (captain), 7 Simon ELLIOTT, 8 Tim BROWN (19 Tommy SMITH 45’), 9 Shane SMELTZ (22 Jeremy BROCKIE 66’), 10 Chris KILLEN, 11 Leo BERTOS (4 Winston REID 31’), 14 Rory FALLON.**

**Substitutes not used: 12 Glen MOSS (RGK), 13 Andy BARRON, 16 Aaron CLAPHAM, 17 David MULLIGAN, 21 Jeremy CHRISTIE, 23 James BAN-NATYNE (RGK).**



Brett Holman comes to the Socceroos' rescue with a winner, deep into injury time. PHOTO: DANUEL FLIS



Dario Vidosic pulls the Socceroos level.PHOTO: DANUEL FLIS

**Yellow card: Andrew Boyens 66’  
Red cards: Nil**

# Is this it?

By Con Stamocostas

**This is what says it all for me when looking at the Socceroos performance against New Zealand at the MCG. The Strokes first album Is This It. And after playing like this for the last couple of years the answer unfortunately is yes. I've been hoping and praying and meditating that the Socceroos performances will swing into overdrive and the slick quick tempo play that the Socceroos showed at 06 World Cup and against Holland and Ireland away in friendlies would come back.**

Sure that kind of play I described only happened in spurts and the rest of the time the Aussies are mostly chasing the play and thwarting attacks but lest get realistic. The defence is slow. The long balls are many, the inventive play and imagination is not there and the speed is lacking. The speed of thought, speed of action and speed of execution is laboured and most times contrived. The game plan of 4-2-3-1 set up mostly in a negative defensive formation not to concede most

be so obvious to the opposition.

Pim’s often quoted mantra “That training in Europe is better than playing the A League” proved to be a case of bullshit! New Zealand ‘s A League contingent troubled the European Socceroos so much that they resorted to clumsy studs in air challenges that almost broke Leo Bertos’s leg. The wine stained bruises on Bertos’s leg made the Socceroos out as disrespectful thugs. A painful irony considering that Grella one of the main culprits was saying during the build up to the game that the Kiwi’s should not be looking to cause injuries.

Unlike Gus when you did not know what to expect. The opposition coming up against Australia should not fear anything the Australians do. With Pim the players know what to expect. The first 11 is guaranteed a spot and those players do not feel any pressure for their spots except to be fit.

Lately the Socceroos have been playing to a very poor script. With the actors only giving half arsed performances and the understudy’s not being much better. The exciting characters that have that special something are fading ( Kewell) or are

being ignored(Carle). And you know what’s going to happen next. There is no M Night Shyamalan twist here. The formula is getting boring/ Play crap in the first half and then a bit better in the second. Why does it take a half time chat for Pim to get the players to pass the ball quicker and for the full backs to join in the attack?

All my pre-World Cup excitement has dissipated and I fear that we are going to get one big time ass kicking. Watching the Socceroos slide dangerously into New Zealand players I felt that same ugly feeling of hate that I sometimes reserve for the Australian Cricket team. For the first time in a long time I wanted the Socceroos to lose. So they can learn a lesson. But the worst thing possible happened they won and Brett Holman who couldn’t pass an STD in an African brothel ended up scoring the winner. So I wait for the uninspired cull that Pim will make today. He will cut the players you want to see and keep the ones that you don’t. ( The thoughts of this writer do not reflect the optimism that is supposed to be shown when your national team is about to embark on it’s third World Cup, however he has been forced to open up on his true feelings upon witnessing the “shit on the stick” that was on offer at the MCG last night.)

End of Vent! Go the Socceroos, just go....



Timmy Cahill is lucky not to be sent off after a unsavoury tackle on Leo Beertos. PHOTO: ANITA MILAS



# Boca Juniors coming to Melbourne!

Boca Juniors has confirmed a friendly match in their World Tour with Melbourne Victory at Etihad Stadium the 16th of July. They have already started their exhibition matches in preparation for their Apertura championship starting in August and hoping to restore much pride and improve their performances after a rather dismal season. This trip will be Boca's first to Australia in its 105 year history. They are committed to bringing its strongest possible squad to Melbourne and promises to be a real spectacle for Australian football fans. Their last leg of their World Tour will be up against Liverpool in England.

Whilst in Los Angeles, Tristan Bowen scored in the 83rd minute and Josh Saunders made 13 saves to lead the Los Angeles Galaxy to a 1-0 victory over Boca Juniors of Buenos Aires in an exhibition match last Sunday night. Mike Magee began the scoring play with a right-wing cross to Michael Stephens in the penalty area. Stephens sent a short pass to his left to Bowen, who poked an 11-yard shot past diving goalkeeper Javier Garcia. Saunders made two big right-handed saves in a 3-minute span. Saunders dived to his right to stop Gaston Rossi's 25-yard shot in the 65th minute, and deflected Lucas Viatri's 10-yard header over the crossbar in the 68th minute.

The Galaxy's Landon Donovan and Edson Buddle missed the game to train with the United States' World Cup team. Buddle is Major League Soccer's top scorer with nine goals, while Donovan leads MLS with nine assists. Boca Juniors played without forward Martin Palermo, the club's all-time leading scorer, midfielder Claudio Morel and defender Gary Medel. All three are training for the World Cup with Argentina, Paraguay and Chile, respectively. The game was Boca Juniors' first of a three-match tour. Boca Juniors will play the Seattle Sounders on Wednesday night and the Portland Timbers on Saturday.



**Toluca clinched the Mexican Clausura championship last Sunday by beating Santos Laguna in a sudden-death penalty shootout in the**

**second leg of the final. Alfredo Talavera saved Fernando Arce's penalty—Santos' sixth spotkick—to win the title for Toluca after the match finished goalless after extra time. The first leg ended 2-2 last Thursday at Santos' stadium in Torreón, with away goals not counting in the final.**

The win moved Toluca level with América on 10 titles, second on the overall list behind Chivas, which has 11. The title was Toluca coach José Manuel De La Torre's third, following previous wins with Toluca in the Apertura 2008 tournament and Chivas in the Apertura 2006. "I don't know what to say, it's indescribable how it all happened," De La Torre said. "Santos was an extraordinary opponent. Now it's time to celebrate and plan for next season."

Toluca striker, Chilean international Hector Mancilla, who missed a penalty in the shootout, said: "It was dramatic. We didn't expect it to come down to this but we are champions again. "Thousands of things went through my mind after missing... I felt I had to score, but I didn't and thank God my teammates could win it."

Santos had two opportunities to win the shootout but Matias Vuoso and Carlos Morales both dragged their penalties wide. Edgar Duenas scored Toluca's sixth penalty before Talavera saved from Arce. Vuoso also had a clear chance to win the match for Santos in the 14th minute of extra time, but skewed his shot



Melbourne fans are in store for a treat when the world famous Boca Juniors grace these shores.

wide from eight yards out.

Toluca had the first chance in regular time, with Santos goalkeeper Osvaldo Sánchez saving from Nestor Calderón in the 28th minute. Talavera was called into action after halftime to make saves from Jose Maria Cárdenas and Vuoso, before Dueñas headed wide for Toluca from a corner with less than 10 minutes remaining. Santos looked more likely to score during extra time, with Oribe Peralta cutting inside two defenders and pulling his shot wide before Vuoso's glaring miss ensured the match went to penalties.



**In Argentina, All Boys became the third team promoted to Argentina's first division, defeating Rosario Central 3-0**

**on Sunday to go through 4-1 on aggregate. All Boys will join Olimpo de Bahía Blanca and Quilmes, which had already won automatic promotion to the first division for the Apertura season. In the other promotion showdown on Sunday, Gimnasia La Plata defeated Atlético Rafaela 3-1 to stay in the first division. Atlético Rafaela won the first leg 1-0.**

Chacarita Juniors and Atlético Tucumán were automatically relegated when the season ended last weekend. Rosario Central is the third team to join them in relegation. Marcelo Vieytes, Mariano Campodónico and Cristian Vella scored for All Boys, a club that returns to the first division for the first time in 30 years. The Buenos Aires team last played in the top tier in 1980. Rosario Central, Lionel Messi's initial junior club that also is symbolically the team "Che" Guevara supported is going down for the first time since 1984.

Diego Maradona says the emergence of Diego Milito, who scored both goals in Inter Milan's Champions League final victory over Bayern Munich, only adds to Argentina's fire-power up front in the World Cup. Maradona gave a news conference Sunday for the first time since announcing his 23-man World Cup squad on Wednesday. "He (Milito) scored two great goals, which show why I picked him," said Maradona, whose team faces Canada on Monday in the Gauchos' final warm up before the World Cup.

However, there may be little room in the Argentine lineup for Milito, who scored 30 goals from Inter Milan. Maradona has said he may play three forwards, with Lionel Messi of



Toluca clinch the Mexican title

Barcelona teaming up front the Real Madrid's Gonzalo Higuain and Carlos Tévez of Manchester City. Milito, Sergio Agüero of Atlético Madrid and Martín Palermo of Boca Juniors look like to be only reserves. A few days ago Maradona said he could not leave Tévez—the most popular player in the country—out of the lineup. In a recent poll, Messi was only No. 5 on the popularity list.

"It didn't surprise me what he (Milito) did. He's had a spectacular season. But so have Lio (Messi), Tévez and "Kun" Agüero," said Maradona, using Agüero's nickname. The Atlético Madrid player is his son-in law.

Maradona said several times he was relaxed going into his first World Cup as Argentina's coach, adding that the South Americans had everything needed to contend for the World Cup. Maradona won the World Cup as a player in 1986 and led Argentina to the 1990 final. But he has been widely criticized since taking over as coach 19 months ago, many questioning his tactics and lack of formal coaching training. Argentina struggled to finish in the final automatic qualifying spot in South America, absorbing a humiliating 6-1 loss against Bolivia and a 3-1 loss at home against Brazil.

"I see this group as very solid," Maradona said. "We have character and everything we need to have a great World Cup." Maradona has never publicly explained why he left Inter Milan defender Javier Zanetti and teammate and midfielder Esteban Cambiasso off the 23-man squad. When asked about it Sunday, he shrugged his shoulder and seemed insulted he

was even asked.

"Again with the list of 23, brother," he replied to the question. "It's done. I've already handed it in." Zanetti and Cambiasso seemed resigned to the decision, which Maradona had hinted at throughout qualifying. In place of Zanetti, one of the world's most experienced defenders, Maradona picked Ariel Garce of Argentine club Colón de Santa Fé. Garce has played only one match for the national team, appearing earlier this month in a 4-0 victory over Haiti.

Maradona predicted success, basing much of his confidence on Messi, the reigning FIFA player of the year. "Messi is the best in the world and if he has the ball we have more possibilities," Maradona said. Thank God he's an Argentine."

He likened this World Cup to 1986, he led Argentina past West Germany 3-2 in the final at Mexico. Argentina opens on June 12 against Nigeria and also faces Greece and South Korea in Group B. "We know we aren't the favorites, but we are going to surprise," he said. "We are hungry for glory. I see it similar to '86. Besides, Messi arrives better than I was."

Still, in other news coming from Buenos Aires regarding the World Cup, Paraguay forward Salvador Cabañas has been released from a rehabilitation clinic where he was recovering from a gunshot wound to the head. Cabañas' mother, Basilia Ortega, told ABC Color of Asuncion that her son left the Fleni Clinic on the outskirts of Buenos Aires on Sunday.

Cabañas, who would have been selected in Paraguay's World Cup squad if he had been fit, was shot in the head at point-blank range on Jan. 25 in a bar in Mexico City, where he played for giants Club América. Surgeons opted to leave the bullet fragment lodged in Cabañas' skull, judging that an attempt to remove it would be too risky.



**Brazil's players are focusing purely on fitness work and conditioning as they begin preparations for the World Cup.**

**The squad has been undergoing physical tests since players reported for national-team duty in the southern city of Curitiba on Friday, and has not yet practiced on the field.**

The squad will stay in Brazil until Wednesday, when it heads to South Africa for the final stage of preparations ahead of its first match at the World Cup—against North Korea on June 15. Julio Cesar, Maicon and Lucio, who helped Inter Milan win the Champions League on Saturday in Madrid are expected to arrive this coming week to report to the Brazil squad.

"We believe the players will reach their peak after the third match," Brazil trainer Paulo Paixao said. "That's usually when the team as a whole will reach our goal in terms of physical condition." Brazil, seeking its sixth world title, will face Ivory Coast in its second Group G match and Portugal in the third. The team will continue its preparation in Johannesburg, where it is expected to play two warmup matches with opponents yet to be announced.

At club level, Defender Chicão scored from an early free-kick to help Corinthians defeat Fluminense 1-0 and retain the standings lead after the third round of the Brazilian league Sunday.

Corinthians is the only team to have won all three matches, reaching nine points and staying two points ahead of pack.

Chicão scored the lone goal in the 11th-minute when he curled a right-footed shot into the left corner past Fluminense goalkeeper Rafael. Fluminense pressured throughout the match and came close to equalizing several times, but Corinthians was able to hold on in

front of more than 30,000 fans at Pacaembu stadium in Sao Paulo.

Fluminense, which welcomed the return of former Brazil striker Fred who hadn't played in this year's competition because of an appendectomy, complained heavily over the refereeing after two disallowed goals and some dubious offside calls. Corinthians got the win despite playing without star striker Ronaldo, who is nursing a minor muscle injury.

Flamengo striker Vagner Love scored twice to give the defending champions their first win in this year's tournament in a 3-1 victory over Prudente 3-1 Maracana stadium. Flamengo played without striker Adriano and Serbian midfielder Dejan Petkovic because of injuries. It was the team's first match since being eliminated by Universidad de Chile in the quarterfinals of the Copa Libertadores on Thursday.

In Porto Alegre, six-time champion Sao Paulo got past Internacional 2-0 to earn its first victory in the competition. Fernandão, a former Internacional star, scored one of the goals at Beira-Rio stadium. Atlético Mineiro, coached by Vanderlei Luxemburgo, defeated Atlético Paranaense 3-1 at Mineirão stadium in Belo Horizonte. Ceara, just promoted to the first division, edged Vitoria 1-0 with a second-half injury-time goal in Fortaleza.

Also Sunday, Guarani drew Cruzeiro 2-2 in Campinas, while Avaí beat Rio de Janeiro giant Vasco da Gama 2-0 in Florianópolis. On Saturday, four-time champion Palmeiras beat Gremio 4-2 in its last match at Palestra Italia before the stadium closes for renovation. When the new arena is ready in 2012, it will have its seating capacity increased from 30,000 to 45,000. Palmeiras has a strong connection to Italian immigrants and officials want the arena to host Italy for training at the 2014 World Cup.

Also Saturday, Botafogo beat Goiás 3-0 at Engenhao stadium in Rio despite having both its strikers sent off after they fought each other. Argentine German Herrera and Caio were sent off in the 85th when they pushed each other after an altercation. Both players were fined 20 percent of their salaries. Goiás, the only team yet to win a point, played a man down from the 42nd minute after goalkeeper Fabio was shown a red card for arguing with the referee. The match was stopped for nearly 20 minutes because of a power outage in parts of the stadium, which was built for the 2007 Pan American Games and will be used in the 2016 Olympics. Santos defeated newcomer Atletico Goianiense 2-1 in Goiania despite playing without youngsters Paulo Henrique Ganso, Neymar and Andre, who last week were temporarily suspended by the team for being late reporting to the squad. It was Santos' first win in three matches.

Finally there is speculation amongst the many World Cup national team coaches after the tournament in South Africa, that Marcelo Bielsa - the Argentine coach at the helm of neighbours Chile will assess his contract and a renewal offer before deciding to pursue another term with the top job. He did express interest in moving on elsewhere depending on results and the lead-up after the World Cup for matches due next year in 2011 with the Copa America. Apparently his interest lies amongst a few rumours apart from a return to his native and beloved Newell's Old Boys in the city of Rosario in Argentina, the top job of the Socceros with regional paper El Periodico from Concepcion in Chile's south reporting his interest in Australia quoting it's "climate, sporting culture and quality of living".



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# Villa joins Barca as transfer madness begins

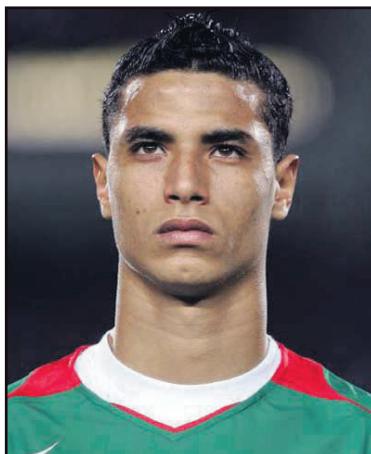
The floodgates for the northern summer transfer season have opened, particularly in the English Premier League with confirmed trades and rumours running rife at Arsenal, Manchester City and last season's debutants Birmingham. However, David Villa is the highest publicised signing so far, having already completed his signing to the Spanish golden boys at Barcelona.

With the completion of all major European leagues and other competitions over the past three weeks the managers of many European clubs are quickly making signings before the World Cup commences on July 11th. After spending five seasons at Valencia, in which he scored 107 goals in 166 official league matches, Spaniard striker **David Villa**, 28 officially signed with Barcelona for £34.2 million on May 19th. The four-year contract for Villa to the newly crowned Spanish champions is even more attractive as he will now link-up with Swede Zlatan Ibrahimovic and fellow Spaniard youngster Bojan Krkic.

Fellow Spaniard attacking midfielder, **Cesc Fabregas** has also been linked to a return to his home and first club of Barcelona in their bid to build an even more skilled team than last season. Barcelona President Joan Laporta is intensely trying to put the transfer rumours to rest by signing the Gunners' star midfielder in the next week before the World Cup begins in under two weeks. However, the Gunners are not accepting Barcelona's



The exciting David Villa, nicknamed 'El Guaje' (The Kid) in Spain, makes the move from Valencia to Barcelona.



Moroccan striker Marouane Chamakh from Bordeaux to Arsenal

offer of £30 million for Fabregas as it falls well short of their valuation of the Spaniard.

In the English Premier League, however confirmed transfers are of the highest amount in any of the major European leagues, which is particularly at Arsenal in terms of incoming and outgoing players and of course the rumours of Cesc Fabregas to Barcelona. At the North London club, the four-year, £12 million deal of Moroccan striker **Marouane Chamakh** from Bordeaux has brought a new sense of attacking spirit and hope to the Gunners after last season's departure of Emmanuel Adebayor

to Manchester City. Chamakh's contract with the 2009 Ligue 1 champions ran out at the end of this season and was also sought after by a hesitant Liverpool, but the Gunners snapped him up in their 2010/2011 title bid.

Other Arsenal transfers include the release of reserve midfielder **Fran Merida**, who has returned home to Spain at Atletico Madrid on a free transfer due to his Arsenal contract running out on June 30th. The under 21 Spanish international has signed a four-year contract at the Europa League champions.

There is further speculation at Arsenal surrounding that of Australian first goalkeeper **Mark Schwarzer** from Europa League finalists Fulham to the Gunners over the summer. Wegner claimed he had the Australian scouted towards the end of the 2009/2010 season and is one of his biggest priorities, next to the confirmed signing of Marouane Chamakh. However, Schwarzer has talked down the speculation by saying that he intends to stay at Fulham, at least until his contract runs out, which has one year left.

Aside from this perhaps being the highest profile signing of the shortened transfer season, Manchester City are sharing the bulk of rumours but have yet to make a serious move on any of the big names linked to the Eastlands. The most publicised link to Roberto Mancini's sky blues is Wolfsburg star striker **Edin Dzeko** who is valued at £35 million in exchange for England youngster Micah

Richards for £10 million

Other high profile links to Eastlands are 24 year-old Spanish and Valencia winger, **David Silva**. Valencia declared to City that he is worth £30 million, but he has also been linked along the same path as his ex-Valencia team mate David Villa to Barcelona, but also Real Madrid and to English Premier League runners-up, Manchester United.

Some other confirmed English Premier League transfers Manchester United goalkeeper **Ben Foster** moving to Birmingham along with Serbian striker **Nikola Zigic** from Valencia. Foster signed on May 19th on a three-year deal for an estimated £4-6 million; Zigic signed on May 26th for £6 million on a four-year deal in a double transfer bid to continue their first year success in the top flight in the 2010/2011 season.

Elsewhere, in a so far uneventful transfer window for the Italian Serie A, dropped Italian international striker **Luca Toni** has been linked to Napoli from league runners-up Roma. If the move was confirmed, it would see the 33 year-old ex-Bayern Munich star link-up with Argentine striker, Ezequiel Lavezzi, who has also been surprisingly omitted from Diego Maradona's World Cup Squad.



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**Serbia**

Serbia is preparing for the World Cup at their training camp in Austria, were they have been staying the last few days. The atmosphere and team spirit is rising day by day and this is key to the sides on field performances despite the shock loss to New Zealand in a warm up match on Saturday.

The squad is united and the players are eager to get the campaign started. Serbia played its first World Cup warm up game on Saturday when it took on New Zealand and befell to a Shane Smeltz only goal.. It will be a good chance to see how the players respond as precious time now remains until they take on Ghana in their opening group game.

A majority of the players are coming into the World Cup in excellent club form. Milos Krasic has had a breakthrough season with Russian side CSKA Moskva, reaching the Quarter Finals in the Champions League. The blonde winger scored some valuable goals, particularly his strike at Old Trafford against Manchester United.

Nikola Zigic and Dejan Stankovic were the last players to join the squad. Deki is coming off a treble winning season while Zigic signed for Premier League side Birmingham City.

In past squads there has always been friction between the players. This side lacks that controversy and has the will to represent their nation in the highest regard with passion and pride. Antic's boys have shown Unity is the key to a successful side!

Serbia however, struggled against New Zealand in their first warm up game, Radomir Antic put out a fringe side which was led by Manchester United defender Nemanja Vidic. The team failed to break the deadlock in what was a fairly poor performance which lacked team cohesion.

Peter Crouch will no longer be the tallest player in the Premier League after Nikola Zigic put pen to paper on a 6 million pound move to Birmingham City.

**Zdravko Kuzmanovic**

Midfielder Zdravko Kuzmanovic could prove to be one of the most important players in the Serbian squad at the World Cup finals. He will be an impact player for the team, someone Antic will rely on when times are tough.

Kuzmanovic moved to Bundesliga side CFB Stuttgart at the start of the season from Italian side Fiorentina and it took him some time adjusting to the league. Kuzma would go on to be a valuable asset for Stuttgart whether it was coming off the bench or being in the starting lineup. The tireless midfielder will probably not be Dejan Stankovic's partner in the starting eleven but he will be regularly used by Antic, like he was in the qualifiers. His finest display was coming into the second last game against Romania and finishing off an excellent team move. His inclusion to the side gives the white eagles a breath of fresh air and takes the pressure of Dejan Stankovic who has been criticised in the past for his poor performances in the national team and has been dubbed a club player.

He can be compared to former Yugoslavia midfielder Slavisa Jokanovic someone who rarely made mistakes and never gave up.

This World Cup could be Zdravko's big opportunity to shine and show everyone he is the future center midfielder of the Serbian side. Dragan Stojkovic was the last real midfielder that mattered for the national team and Stankovic has only now started to perform well. It looks good for Kuzma who enjoys being brought into the thick of the action.

**Croatia**

Velimir Zajec has been appointed head coach of League Champions Dinamo Zagreb following the resignation of Krunoslav Jurcic. This will be Zajec's second spell at the club having previously been at the helm in 1998/99.

The national side defeated Wales 2:0 and played out a goalless draw with minnows Estonia in mid week friendlies. Ivan Rakit-



United: Serbia's preparation for the World Cup took a dent on the weekend after a 1-0 loss to New Zealand.

A big signing for Birmingham: At 202 cms (6 ft 7 in) tall, Žigic is one of the tallest footballers in the world playing for a top flight football club.



ic and Drago Grabic found the net in the second half against a depleted Welsh outfit. National coach Slaven Bilic has been giving fresh faced rising stars of Croatian football a good run in the friendly matches. In the ecounter against Estonia many questions will have to be answered. Croatia played poorly and will have to pick themselves up ahead of the European Championship qualifiers.

Bilic has also been linked with moves to Old Firm rivals Rangers and Celtic.

**Bosnia**

Zeljeznicar are Bosnian League Champions for the forth time following a comprehensive win over Laktasi. Amar Osim's

men have had an excellent season and will now look towards European football when they kick off their continental adventure in the Champions League qualifiers. Laktasi and Modrica will be compeating in the second divison next season.

Bosnia took on Sweden in a friendly which they lost 4:2. Salihovic and Misimovic scored for the White and Blues. Bosnia is looking to go one better and qualify for a major tournament for the first in their history. They came close to booking a ticket for South Africa but fell in the last hurdle in the play offs. Bosnia's player of the century and current coach Safet Susic is hoping they do so.

BOSNIA			
	P	GD	Pts
1 FK Željeznicar	30	30	61
2 NK Široki Brijeg	30	19	55
3 Borac Banja Luka	30	8	53
4 NK Zrinjski	30	13	51
5 FK Sarajevo	30	18	50
6 FK Olimpik Sarajevo	30	-4	44
7 FK Velež	30	9	43
8 FK Sloboda Tuzla	30	-4	42
9 NK Travnik	30	-1	39
10 FK Rudar Prijedor	30	-5	38
11 FK Leotar	30	-16	38
12 Zvezda Gradacac	30	-12	37
13 NK Celik	30	-4	35
14 FK Slavija Sarajevo	30	-14	35
15 FK Laktasi	30	-8	34
16 FK Modrica	30	-29	24

South Melbourne FC's Singapore Cup Tilt

# South through to Singapore Cup quarters

By John Kyrou

**South Melbourne FC has progressed to the Quarter Final stage of the RHB Singapore Cup following a deserved 2-1 victory over S-League outfit Gombak United at the Jalan Besar Stadium in Singapore on Wednesday evening.**

South overcame the humid conditions as well as Jalan Besar's artificial surface to record the historic win thanks to goals by Daniel Vasilevski and Joseph Youssef.

South's intentions were clear from the kick-off, with the focus being on scoring an early goal. This occurred in the 12th minute when new signing Kyle Joryeff intercepted Gombak's Park Kang Jin's misplaced pass and crossed. Gianni De Nittis flicked the ball onto the back post where Vasilveski was on hand to tap home past Gombak goalkeeper Zaiful Nizam.

Gombak equalised after 28 minutes when striker Agu Casmir turned outside the area and fired an unstoppable shot into the top corner of the goal. The goal gave Gombak some momentum however South were the team looking more likely to score the next goal. After 39 minutes, South regained the lead and ultimately scored the winning goal when Vasilevski's perfectly weighted through-ball for Youssef culminated in the big forward firing a shot into the bottom far corner to make the score 2-1.

South should have finished the game off in the second half as the side domi-

nated possession and created several excellent opportunities to score. Youssef volleyed a brilliant cross from Joryeff wide and then later on rounded Nizam but put too much weight on his touch to get around the keeper, with the result being a goalkick. Late into the match, substitute Hamid Basma also found himself one-on-one with Nizam but the goal-keeper won the battle by making a good save off South's new signing.

After the match, coach Vaughan Coveny said how "we don't play or train on an artificial surface back home, so it was very difficult for us to adapt. I'm very proud of how my players battled and fought for the victory tonight, and it's a huge morale-boosting win for the club."

**FINAL SCORE:**  
**SOUTH MELBOURNE 2-1 GOMBAK UNITED (HT: 2-1)**

**South Melbourne:**  
*Peter Zois, Rhodri Payne, Steven O'Dor, Daniel Vasilevski (Sebastian Petrovic 89'), Carl Recchia, Gianni De Nittis, Joseph Youssef (Hamid Basma 83'), Rama Tavsancioglu, Marinov Gasparis, James Stefanou, Kyle Joryeff (Sam Torrens 81')*

**Scorers: Daniel Vasilevski 12', Joseph Youssef 39'**

**Gombak United:**  
*Zaiful Nizam, Hamqaamal Shah, Goran Subara, Bah Mamadou, Jeremy Chiang, Ruhaizad Ismail (Zulkif-*



South Melbourne players exchange aftermatch pleasantries with their Gombak United counterparts. Photo: CINDY NITSOS

*fli Hassim 58'), Agu Casmir (Chang Jo Yoon 73'), Fazrul Nawaz, Fabian Tan (Fazli Jaffar 58'), Park Kang Jin, Obadin Aikhena*

**Scorer: Agu Casmir 28'**

**Venue: Jalan Besar Stadium, Singapore**  
**Date: Wednesday 26 May 2010**  
**Crowd: 2,039**





# Powerhouse of post-war football

Polish migration to Australia, particularly in the post-war years, produced some great football teams across the nation in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Geelong, and Perth (Cracovia) among others. Many of these survive today. Croydon Kings is the direct descendant of Polonia Adelaide and Breakwater Eagles, playing at the White Eagle Club in Geelong has links to Syrena and Polonia clubs which represented the Polish community in the 1950s to the 1970s. Yet it is interesting that a well-researched and substantial book on The Australian People edited by James Jupp has no mention of football in eleven pages on the Polish communities in Australia.

The Polish Association of Victoria invited all Poles interested in sport to a meeting on 13 August 1950, hoping to set up soccer, boxing, table tennis, netball, cycling and chess sections. K S Polonia exploded on to the Melbourne and Victorian football scene in 1951. Its first season was exceptional even in that period of strong debuts by newcomers from Europe. Placed in Division Four along with seven other new teams—Frankston, Geelong United, Maccabi, Ulsterville, Balwyn United, Slavia and Heidelberg, Polonia finished on top of the table, four points clear of Ulsterville. Only one league game was drawn preventing a perfect record over the whole season and Polonia scored 70 goals and conceded but five. As their club correspondent noted, all the teams in the Fourth Division could have held their own in much higher levels. Polonia's reserve team won its division, and the seniors went on to beat Geelong United and International Harvesters, also from Geelong, in the divisional cup. Polonia reached the third round of the Dockerty Cup and was only narrowly beaten by the eventual winner, JUST.

When Bill Thomas, sometime president of the Victorian Amateur Soccer Football Association, selected a team of mainly Victorian representatives to tour New Zealand in 1951, he organised a training match against the Polish newcomers. Thomas was shocked when Polonia soundly beat his tourists.

Success did not end there and Polonia knocked out Hungary in the Laidlaw World Cup tournament for national



Vic Janczyk (left), captain of Victoria, shakes hands with Boris Batanov of Moscow Torpedo before a match at Olympic Park in 1965. Laurie Schwab collection, Deakin University.

teams. Polonia supplied all the players and two of its stars, keeper Stefan Czauderna and inside forward Boleslaw 'Bob' Zablocki played for Victoria against the touring professional English team that year. Czauderna's performances in goal in two matches against the tourists was so impressive that his team mates insisted that his picture be on the front cover of Soccer News on 16 June 1951. Victoria Country and the full Victorian side conceded twelve goals over the two games, but the keeper could not be blamed for any of them. Zablocki had spent from 1939 to 1945 in prisoner-of-war camps, so his contribution was equally meritorious. The attendance at the second match was 29,652, a crowd only exceeded by the two test matches involving England and Australia in Sydney.

The next season was also very impressive for the new club. Polonia won every league game and headed Division Three by ten points from White Eagles in 1952. It was a finalist in the Dockerty Cup and

was only beaten 3-2 by Brighton. Promotion followed again in 1953 after Polonia came second in Division Two to South Yarra by a point. So in three seasons the new club had reached the highest level in Victorian football.

Polonia came third in the first division behind Juventus and Hakoah in 1954. It got even closer to the pinnacle the next year finishing second on goal average to Juventus in 1955 with both teams on 29 points. The Polish lads lost only one game in the whole year. After marking time in mid table in 1958 in first year of State League and again in 1959, Polonia won the league in 1960 for first time as Maribymong-Polonia, and defended title successfully in 1961. In addition, Polonia was runner up in the top division in 1955, 1963 and 1968. Among the players in these triumphant years were Cor Morks, Marian Gasior, Remo Guardiani, Vic Janczyk, Wujko Maruszkiewicz, Harry Capobus, Roch Dronia, Wladyslaw Gamaj, Mike Jurecki, Jurek Dudon, Kaz Szy-



Polonia v Geelong United 1951. Back row, left to right: Ludwik Cebula, Boleslaw Zablocki, Tadeusz Bialek, Augustyn Dziura, Meiczyslaw Terlikowski, Julian Chrzanowski, Klecza. Front row: Tadeusz Koszanski, Stefan Czauderna, Jan Mazurek, Henryk Jakubowski. (Names given in Australian style rather than Polish where family name precedes given name.) Source: KS Polonia 20th anniversary booklet. Laurie Schwab collection, Deakin University.

galski, Reuter, Biro, Jakubowski, Vince Parltoni and Ryszard Szczepanski.

Three of the absolute stars of Polonia across the years were Mike Jurecki, Kaz Kowalek and Vic Janczyk. Jurecki and Kowalek played for the Polish national B team. Jurecki was with Polonia in Victoria from 1960 to 1965 before going to Sydney. Kowalek was centre forward for Polonia from 1963 to 1971, and coached the club from 1968 to 1972. Janczyk was player-coach of Polonia in the mid-1960s and all three played for Victoria against Moscow Torpedo in 1965, while Janczyk coached the Vics.

Polonia was unable to sustain its level of brilliance and relegation from the State League occurred in 1977. In the early 1980s a new wave of Polish migration brought more support and some good players to the club. Promotion from Metropolitan Division One to the State League followed in 1981. Performances at the top level yo-yoed over the 1980s with the club coming second in 1984, but

flirting with relegation in 1986 and 1988 interspersed with the State League championship once again in 1987. The squad that year included Barney Kostrezewa, Joe Kiss, Ricky Lipiarski, Steve Chetcuti, Gerry Bennett, Aki Kotzamichalis, Jan Wycisluk, Greg Warszawski, Rob Nelson, Gordon Flavell, Kees Storm, Brendan Latic and Janusz Baran. The Czapnik brothers, Peter and Greg, Mirek Smolarek, Janusz Przybyla, Paul Drinoczky and Jan Wycisluk also played in the 1980s. But the run of success eventually came to an end and the once powerful club was relegated in 1989.

Polonia then became Sunshine Heights Polonia in 1991 and finished second bottom of Division Two. By 1993 it was in mid table in Division Four. Then in 1998 it had another name change and became Western Eagles. In 2010 the Eagles compete in Provisional League North-West Division Two.



Kaz Kowalek of Polonia stays on his feet long enough to get a shot away against T Keuken of Wilhelmina in one-all draw at Olympic Park in September 1964. Photo: Laurie Schwab collection, Deakin University.



The championship winning team of 1987 featured two of the biggest players in the league, Aki Kotzamichalis (left of centre) and Alex Marshall, seen here leaving the field after the last match of the season against Western Suburbs. PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON



Mike Jurecki crosses the ball for Polonia in the 1960s. Photo: Laurie Schwab collection, Deakin University.



# O'Dell quits George Cross

By Luke Sheehan

**SUNSHINE George Cross lost big time on Saturday night at Paisley Park Soccer Complex, and it was not just in the scoreboard that read a 6-0 victory to Altona Magic.**

Andy O'Dell resigned as coach of the Georgies after the loss, and he said it was time for change at the club he has poured his heart and soul into.

"I've been there for two and a half seasons. I've had a fantastic time.

"I love the club. I love the people. I think its just time for a change. (It was a) disappointing way to end it last night. I've got a lot of pride. The club's got a lot of pride. It kills me to see what's happened (at the club). But I think it's time for a change, for myself, and a different voice and different ideas," O'Dell said.

It was not an easy decision to make for O'Dell, but he's not leaving Sunshine behind altogether.

"I talked to the players last night (Saturday night) and it was the hardest thing I've ever done in my coaching career.

"I'm leaving the club and I'm leaving them, but I'm going to have a massive interest in George Cross for the rest of my life. You don't spend three season meeting people and making friends I've never met be-



Andy O'Dell has decided to declare from the Geogre Cross job.

fore and just walk away from it.

"It's like walking away from your wife, or divorce or something like that. There will always be a special place in my heart for George Cross."

O'Dell was grateful for the backing he had from the club that has seen George Cross stay in the Premier

League since its promotion for season 2009, in somewhat of a surprise to Victorian soccer supporters.

"I just want to thank the club and the committee for giving me the opportunity to coach in the Premier League."

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## THE KATSA

With George Katsamboukas



### J WALKER SCOREBOARD 3-11

**Whisper from certain associates late Saturday night, who shared a few hundred J Walkers with Katsa, was that Sunshine Georgies Andy O'Dell had retired hurt after, after his team copped 6 from Altona Magic.**

As mentioned, these are purely whispers at this stage, I'm sure that my Goal Weekly Colleagues will report more shortly, as investigative reporting is not one of my strengths.

Speaking of Andy O'Dell and Sunshine Georgies, a recent interview that he had with Craig McKenzie , concerning the alleged poaching of Kyle Joryeff by South Melbourne contained some very interesting comments' regarding that players financial payments by the Georgies, only problem is that the said player was on an Amateur Contract, and the amounts men-

tioned were over and above what the House of Darebin allows.

The good folk from the FFV who are quicker to charge Clubs for breaches of their Rules, than I can finish a deck of W N Fields, have laid charges and the Legal Eagles will be hearing these charges shortly. Should be an interesting outcome.

Over to the World Stage we go, where Pim's Lads put on an insipid performance last week, against the Kiwis.

After seeing the starting line up, I decided that watching Springvale White Eagles Langwarran was a better option, and I certainly was not disappointed after seeing numerous goals being scored there.

For mine, the Socceroos with their negative style of play will struggle to get past the first round.

The Kiwis however are looking the goods and pulled off an upset

1-0 win over Serbia, in a match that was marred with pitch invasions and various other objects that were thrown onto the oitch.

Something that I have never seen occurred with 10 to go in this match, with Serbia's Vidic grabbing a microphone and asking for calm from his supporters.

This weeks odd spot occurred at the Richmond V Green Gully Match, with the 3 Votes going to the Men In Black.

Gully won a penalty and the spot kick was coverted, the difference being that there was a hole in the net, the ball then hit a fence and found its way back into the filed of play, with the Richmond players playing on, whilst the Gully Lads were celebrating the Goal.

Men On Black decision was no Goal and play on!



Let's hope the trolley dollies had plenty of J Walker on board for the Socceroos.

Until Next Week

This is Katsa- just as you have known him.

And remember, keep your friends close and your Club Powerbrokers closer





# BOO'S WORLD

With Mark Boric



**Well the Socceroos have arrived in South Africa for the World Cup. Plenty of people and media to see them off at the airport. It may have been the last time Pim Verbeek set foot in this country, which must be a good thing. Unless it is possible to be tried for crimes against Australian football, hopefully he will never darken our doorstep again.**

No longer do the Socceroos "have a go" at the opposition like in days past. That "have a go" is in an attacking sense, not what Vince Grella and Timmy Cahill tried on Leo Bertos. Past national teams relished in their underdog status, taking on stronger opponents without fear. Now we play timidly against sides ranked inferior to us. It is a sad state of affairs.

Growing up in an era in which not every game in every country was televised, and You Tube did not exist, the number of enduring football images that existed was fewer than there is today. The Maradona "Hand of God", the Gordon Banks save off Pele, England's 1966

World Cup win and Paolo Rossi's goals and celebrations from the 1982 World Cup were the most indelible. Another big one was German goalkeeper Harald Schumacher flattening Frenchman Patrick Battiston in 1982 World Cup Semi-Final. The Socceroos in South Africa are most likely to only produce an image similar to that one, probably an effort from Grella.

Nick Carle misses out on going to South Africa and ends up signing for Sydney FC in the same week. He's a tolerant man, calling Verbeek a gentleman. Not everybody can let loose like Ljubo Milicevic or Joel Griffiths I suppose.

Great to see the Matildas reach the final of the Women's Asian Cup. No Dutchman involved there, we should note. By now you will know if we beat DPR Korea, who, it must be pointed out, are a part of the Axis of Evil. An Australian win would be a slap in the face of Kim Jong-il, who would be left cursing us as much as he does the useless Alec Baldwin.

Congratulations to South Melbourne

on beating Gombak United to progress through to the next round of the Singapore Cup. A Melbourne football club that doesn't fail in Asia, who would have thought?



The smiling assassin: Only Millwall FC claims to have more enemies than Kim Jong-il

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# KRNCVIC'S CRUNCHLINES

With Eddie Krncevic

Australian soccer legend, Eddie Krncevic represented the Socceroos 35 times and scored 17 goals. He played professionally in Europe for Dinamo Zagreb (Croatia), MSV Duisberg (Germany), Mulhouse (France) and Anderlecht, FC Liege, Aalst and Charleroi in Belgium.

**The Socceroos are now in camp in South Africa for the World Cup and for what is surely looming large as every day goes by. The farewell match against New Zealand at the MCG last Wednesday night only sought to provide more questions than answers as the Socceroos produced a performance that was not bereft of world beaters.**

Barring a major miracle, the Socceroos are not exactly a side that one would expect Lucas Neill to be hoisting the trophy high in the air at tournament's end. I think that most fans are realistic and would agree that although we are not a serious threat to win it, what most fans are hoping for is that the team produces performances that are of the high calibre witnessed four years ago under Guus Hiddink.

Whilst we are all aware that we have predominantly retained the bulk of the squad that played in Germany, it's fair to say that due to the passage of time and a series of circumstances, the Socceroos of today are not on par with the squad of 2006.

Regardless of the result, the performance against New Zealand was concerning to say the least. Why did it take until the second half for any sort of urgency to emerge from the Socceroos passages of play? You would think, especially with World Cup places still at stake, the tempo and productivity of play would higher.

Never the less, Pim Verbeek has shown that he has a knack of churning out results when least deserved and has done exceptionally well with selecting and using

players according to availability and form. Although the statistics show that Verbeek has the best record as a Socceroo coach to qualifying for a World Cup, we did see on a number of occasions during the qualifiers that our Asian counterparts actually had the better of play and were desperately unlucky not to come out of the tie with more to show for it. The ties against Bahrain and Uzbekistan spring immediately to mind where Australia can thank Mark Schwarzer for playing out of his skin to keep the opposition at bay.

The other concerning point is that in 14 games of qualifying the Socceroos scored 19 times. Not too bad you might say, but 10 of those goals all came against Qatar in 3-0, 3-1 and 4-0 victories over two group stages. The problem of where the goals will come against the likes of Germany, Ghana and Serbia is still, in my opinion, a major concern.

I know I've said it before, but was it not worth a chance to have Nathan Burns or Joel Griffiths invited to the camps? At the very least, just to have a proper and close look at them. With Scott Macdonald now out of the picture, and Harry Kewell still wrapped in cotton wool, it looks as though the scoring responsibilities will fall on Josh Kennedy and Nikita Rukavytsya's shoulders. In all due respect, but with three caps under his belt, this could be a daunting task for someone like Nikita.

Whilst the attacking options look increasingly limited, the midfield ranks aren't fairing too much better. Vince Grella and Mark Bresciano are locked in

a race against time to beat the clock, so maybe the camp will prove that the time has come for Mile Jedinak to be thrust to the fore.

The most important thing that Pim has to try and ascertain in the camp now, is how well will the players hold up on a fitness level, in order to execute his game plan. Once he can determine that, then it's all about getting the balance right. By off loading Nick Carle prior to departure to South Africa, it indicates that regardless if Nick is a luxury player or not, then Pim is not in the mood to entertain creative players. By that, we can safely assume that Pim will be more inclined to adopt defensive tactics, keen to protect the goal first and foremost, before even contemplating penetrating the opposition goals.

Recently we just saw how Jose Mourinho and his Inter troops excelled in winning the European Champions League, by leading the opposition into a false sense of security, making them think that they are in control of the match because they have the lion's share of possession, before blitzing them on the break in a clinical fashion.

I don't imagine that Pim will try and replicate those exact tactics, even though Rukavytsya is equipped with lightning speed. While I like Nikita as a player, he's not exactly a Milito who can hold the ball up and cut through the heart of a hesitating defence when the moment presents itself. I suppose one event that the Socceroos can take to heart, and one that may well prove to be perfect timing in the psychological



Hmmm, maybe it's not too late to tell the pilot to stop by Joel's house and see what he's doing....

stakes, is the news that the Kiwis beat the Serbs in a warm-up match over the weekend. A strange result that shows that if a team beaten by a less than impressive Socceroos a few days ago can do it, then why can't we? Perhaps Pim's lucky star may not be ready to finish shining, just yet.

### RALLYING FOR RALE

Finally, speaking of Serbs, I understand that one of the greatest Australian-Serbs of all time, the one and only Rale Rasic,

was not invited by the FFA to attend the farewell match last week. I have it on good authority that it was actually the NZFA, through Ricki Herbert, who extended the invitation. How can this be so, that the man who guided the Socceroos to their first ever World Cup finals not be considered to be involved in such a monumental event? I don't want to say anything here that will get me in trouble, but I'll leave it up to you to make up your own mind if that's right or wrong.

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# Maclaren raves about Rovers

IS JAMIE Maclaren the next big thing in Australian football? He's 16, he's scored a hat-trick against Manchester United and in July he starts a two-year contract with Blackburn Rovers.

The Sunbury teenager has taken to the professional stage with aplomb and a few short weeks after playing for Blackburn's under-16s he was promoted to become the youngest member of the club's youth team. He's already caught the eye of the Rovers' coaching staff and has trained with the reserves and the seniors. He's also attracted the attention of both Scotland and England. He qualifies for Scotland through his father and for Malta through his mother. The Scottish FA has been in contact with Rovers while England's under-17s head coach, John Peacock, ended his interest abruptly when told that Maclaren had a Scottish background.

So are we about to see yet another tug of war between countries vying for a prodigious Aussie-born talent?

"I'm obviously Australian and would love to play for Australia but since I've been at Blackburn no-one from Australia has contacted me," said Maclaren, speaking exclusively to Goal! Weekly. But there's not even a hint of disappointment in his voice.

"Right now I'm concentrating on developing my club career. I've spoken to Blackburn about the situation and I'm quite happy to concentrate on scoring goals there."

Another club happy to see him scoring regularly is Victorian Premier League powerhouse Green Gully where he made his mark as a junior. Gully's treasurer already has banked close to \$10,000 in compensation since Maclaren's move to Rovers.

The youngster's trial last September with the Lancashire-based English Premier League outfit was arranged by former Dandenong Thunder coach Toby Paterson. Initially Maclaren was due to trial with Aston Villa then Birmingham City then Celtic but Paterson later told the family that Blackburn was really keen so he went there and has never looked back.

We can only imagine what scouts from those other three clubs were thinking after Maclaren's first outing for Blackburn's under-16s against Man U. He played on the wing in the first half, as central striker in the second half and trudged off the ground with a hat-trick to his name.

He then banged in a double against Derby County. Blackburn didn't muck about, telling him then and there that they wanted him to sign.

His international clearance came through in January and after being elevated to the youths as part of Blackburn's elite academy squad he scored on debut in a 1-1 draw with Stoke.

But there's nothing new about this goalscoring phenomenon. He's been hitting the back of the net on a regular basis for the past few seasons, edging ever closer to his dream of cementing his status as a first-class professional player, a dream that took root around 12 years ago down the back of a two-and-a-half-acre property just past Melbourne Airport.

"I got dad to put up a set of goals and I practised every single day. I started playing with Sunbury United's under-8s when I was about four years old. I might have been five, but when I was 10 I switched to Green Gully's under-12s." The Gully junior sides that Maclaren represented from under-13s to under-15s were likened to a tsunami sweeping through Victorian junior ranks. His dad was the coach and the all-conquering Gully kids saw Maclaren playing as a



Blackburn's Aussie goalscoring machine, Jamie Maclaren. Photo: ANITA MILAS.

holding midfielder then finally switching to the wings.

"For three years we were the best team in Victoria. We didn't lose for about 50 games. We just kept winning. The team didn't change much but we just kept moving on and winning everything. "Dad was a big part of that. I guess you could say that he was the most successful junior coach in Victoria during that time."

And throughout that time Jamie Maclaren played in a higher age bracket. Is that part of the reason he slotted in so smoothly among the older teens in Blackburn's academy squad?

"Yes, that's part of it. I think you learn quicker. You're playing with better players and you have to adjust. If you can't adjust then you're not going to get there. You're not going to make it."

There are other reasons that Maclaren was able to make that adjustment. His father Don is one. A former pro himself (ex-Hearts and Dunfermline Athletic) who came to Australia in the late 1970s to play with Canberra City in the national league, he has played a pivotal role as coach and mentor to his son.

The rapport between the pair is obvious. The banter's good and there's no way that Jamie Maclaren will, as they say, get too far ahead of himself with dad around.

"He's the better player of the two," says Don Maclaren bluntly, pointing to Jamie's twin brother Donald, who plays with VPL club Richmond. "Technically, that is. But there's more than that that makes a player."

Indeed. A few seasons back then VIS head coach Ian Greener and now head coach of Victoria's National Training Centre saw a talent that could not escape his clutches.

"I guess you could say that I got into the system at under-12 level when I first played for Victoria," said Jamie Maclaren.

That was in the Victorian junior side that won the national under-12 title in Canberra under coach Darryl Spiteri. The one major setback Maclaren suffered came during the 2008 national titles at Coff's Harbour when the then under-15 star was injured. But that didn't stop Greener's pursuit of one of Victoria's finest talents.

"I ended up on crutches with a cyst on my knee. Ian Greener rang dad and said that he knew I was injured but that once I got fit he wanted to offer me a full (VIS) scholarship.

"The two years I had with the VIS were great. I really, really enjoyed them. Ian Greener and Harry Bingham were quality. They were very, very good. "It was great to hear someone else's opinion of me because up until then I'd always had dad as my coach at club level."

The VIS program gave the youngster a taste of what professional football was about. He found himself involved in recovery sessions, taking ice baths, swimming pool sessions, doing weights and other gym work, even judo as part of a cross-training regime that had been carefully mapped out.

He also switched from playing out wide to a central striker's role and a slight grin emerges when he recounts the circumstances of that move.

"I was a winger at the VIS at first but one time our centre forward got injured so Ian asked me if I minded playing centre forward. I told him I'd play anywhere

just to get on the pitch. I went okay that game. I scored a hat-trick and Ian came up to me after the match and said he might just keep me up front."

Right now Blackburn's pretty happy with Greener's decision.

And if the Maclaren family had any doubts about their son acclimatising to life in Lancashire, fellow Rovers pro and Socceroo star Vinnie Grella is one reason no doubts remain.

"Me and Vinnie have become good buddies," said Maclaren.

"I've had lunch with him and we've had a few chats. He's also come through the VIS program and he knows Ian Greener so there's a connection there."

"I'm obviously Australian and would love to play for Australia but since I've been at Blackburn no-one from Australia has contacted me,"

But the biggest factors in the ease in which he has slipped into a striker's role at Rovers are his unbending confidence in his own ability and what he describes as the supportive atmosphere at the club's Brockhall training complex.

When asked to describe his strengths as a footballer he responds in a forthright fashion: "Scoring goals. That's my main job now and that's what I work on. My pace is an asset. A lot of the other guys in the academy are 18 or 19 years old but over the first five yards I can leave them."

"It's a really friendly environment there. The club's really good and they look after you really well.

"Brockhall's absolute quality. There's the senior training complex up the road then there's the academy area with a village in between. If you get called up to the seniors to help out you're just a couple of minutes' walk away. It's brilliant."

And what of his weaknesses as a player? Has Blackburn identified any?

"I guess you could say the physical side of things. The other players are bigger and stronger but I do a lot of work in the gym and I'm getting stronger."

He's got his favourites among Blackburn's senior squad, players he really looks up to. Apart from his mate Vinnie, he singles out Norwegian international Morten Gamst Pedersen and another Socceroo, Brett Emerton.

"I've always liked Pedersen. Always. Even when I wasn't at Blackburn. It's his technique. When he takes a corner it's unbelievable. But for sheer professionalism you can't go past Brett Emerton. Not just because he's Australian but because of the way he goes about things."

And Maclaren knows that he's going to have to apply himself ever bit as diligently when he returns to Blackburn in a few weeks' time. He knows that there's a lot of work ahead but there's a calm resolve about this young man. You just know that he knows he's good even though there's not the slightest hint of arrogance about him.

He even showed his shy side when GW's Anita Milas turned up to the scene of our interview to conduct a photo shoot. Maclaren chose to hold it at the back of Richmond's clubrooms out of sight of the spectators watching a junior game.

But it remains to be seen whether he can escape the spotlight for much longer.

For the moment he prefers to let his goals do the talking and right now they are making a compelling argument to say that this teenager could be on the brink of something special.





With Leroy Robinson



# Seven Steps to (English) World Cup Heaven

By Leroy Robinson

Fabio Capello picks his 23-man England squad on Tuesday. The build-up (AKA hype) surrounding the team has occupied the back pages of every daily newspaper, along with updated injury reports on Gareth Barry (yawn) and complaints about the 3-1 friendly win over Mexico. The press over here, as well as the general public, make supporting the team the biggest emotional ride since recreational drugs.

Stripping away the hype it has to be understood the Mexico game was only a friendly and never in the history of the World Cup have friendly matches decided the eventual World Cup winners. Short of barricading oneself into a closet the hype will only intensify between now and the opening games of the tournament. So why not add to it by suggesting seven things England needs to do to win the thing!

Such optimistic thinking isn't based on blind faith. That evaporated years ago along with the ozone layer. Look at the Three Lions group: Slovenia (2), USA (9) and Algeria (3). The numbers in brackets are the times they've qualified for World Cups. Between them they have appeared in 14 World Cups, England has 12 under their belt and England is the best team in their group. With such experience the group stage should be a cakewalk. When (not if) they finish top they'll most likely play Serbia or Australia in the last 16 if one of them finishes 2nd in their group to Germany. After that it'll probably be any 2 from France, Argentina and the Germans. None of those teams are a daunting prospect, mainly for the reasons I mentioned last week, the lack of world class strikers at the tournament.

Looking at the best players on each team, Messi has been average in an Argentinean shirt, Germany has a solid team with no outstanding player and France has Franck Ribery who continues to be the singularly most overrated player in world football. When big games come around little Franck develops the legendary superpower of invisibility. Yoann Gourcuff is a class act for Les Bleus but he is unproven at the highest level. But this article is about England and what England needs to do to win the thing. So here are my seven steps to English heaven.



And now for something completely different: England fans prepare to win the 2010 World Cup.

## 1 – Avoid injuries to the 1st Eleven

England's squad lacks depth in several key areas yet the 1st eleven remains strong and can beat any team at any time. Depth at left back is a problem area as is right back. The two incumbents are excellent players but their back-ups (Baines/Warnock and Carragher) are untried at this level or, in Carragher's case, just not good enough in my opinion. There is a lack of speed when the first choice players are missing as well as the ability Cole and Johnson has to link up the forward play.

The centre back pairing of Terry and Ferdinand is solid and reliable most of the time but dig further and you'll find Upson and Dawson. Both are big centre backs who are great in the air but could struggle if players are allowed to run at them.

The midfield is the strongest part of the squad and can withstand injuries even to the first choice players. It is in attack where I have another question mark. Without Rooney the goals may come from Peter Crouch, who has an excellent record for England. But is he really a starter? Jermain Defoe is off-form and Emile Heskey may be a Capello favourite but he couldn't find the goal with satellite navigation. Let's hope there are no injuries for any teams at this year's tournament. History tells us there will be, but England must hope the starters are fighting fit all the way to

the final.

## 2 – Win their first two games

There is a school of thought that suggests every team is due a bad game in the World Cup. The idea is that it must happen in the group stage because any other time will see you going home. I agree with this but that's just part of the reason England need to win their first two games. Winning all but guarantees qualification, gives first teamers a rest, which cuts out the likelihood of suspensions and injuries to first team players. We've seen teams breeze through the group stage and lose in the last 16, that's why I wouldn't mind if England stink in their last game against Slovenia, as long as they do the business in the first two.

## 3 - Practice penalties

The last time England got knocked out of a major tournament and it WASN'T on penalties was 2002 against Brazil if I'm not mistaken. What does that tell you? Practice really does make perfect and they should make sure they practice them at the end of training when they are tired. Perhaps they should even pay some sort of forfeit if they miss penalties in training. The latter is written partly in jest yet there's no doubt England needs to do something. It isn't bad luck that they keep losing from 12 yards.

## 4 – The best players need to be the best players

It's a simple formula for success. Take Barcelona. Messi plays well they win, he plays badly and they lose. At international level the same rules apply. Rooney, Gerrard, Ferdinand and Terry need to be immense. Not all at the same time, but just enough of them for England to win.

## 5 – Surprise people

Another simple fact about football is that games are won by moments of individual excellence or mistakes. England has enough "wild card" players like Walcott, Lennon and Joe Cole (even Adam Johnson if he goes) to bring a touch of the unexpected to the tournament. When all else fails a touch of class from an unexpected source could well be the difference in some games. For me that is what makes this England team better equipped to perform in South Africa than previous ones and means Beckham's injury is a blessing in disguise.

## 6 – Don't be complacent

A saying I've heard in ice hockey is "will overcomes skill". Desire and hard work allied to ability are a sure-fire way to success. Turning up on the day and sticking out your chest aren't enough anymore. Maybe in the past there were certain teams that were only on the same pitch to get souvenir shirts at the end. These days

there's no hiding place for players or teams, everyone is a known quantity. Outworking your opponents (remember how the USA beat Spain in last year's ConFed Cup semi?) is still a great leveller for inferior teams. In the group stages England need to be aware of this and if they somehow do play Spain or Brazil in the final they need to look at the USA for an example of how to shut down better teams. It isn't pretty, but the World Cup trophy sure is.

## 7 – The intangibles

In spite of the above there are many things in a football match beyond playing well and putting in an effort that help a team win. The most important has to be discipline. England players have a decent record in that respect but they need to be warned (Rooney especially) that arguing with officials works against you in two ways. A) They're less likely to give you decisions and B) It will make you far easier to caution. It's not just dissent though. We all remember Rooney's stamp on Carvalho and Zidane's moment of madness on Materazzi. Maybe those games would have turned out differently but for those incidents. One thing is for sure, they didn't help. The team that keeps 10 on the pitch is most likely to win but given Australia's game against Italy 4 years ago I forgive you for not believing me!

And yes, the above could apply to most teams in the final 32 in South Africa, including Australia, but as befits the overconfidence and hype in which England reigns supreme may I respectfully dismiss the other 31 nations and profess how sweet it would be if the trophy found its way back to the inventors of football. Who knows it may even put an end to the traditional emotional ride, for four years at least.

*CORRECTION: In last week's article I had Greece in France's group along with South Africa and Uruguay. It is of course Mexico. Greece are in group B.*



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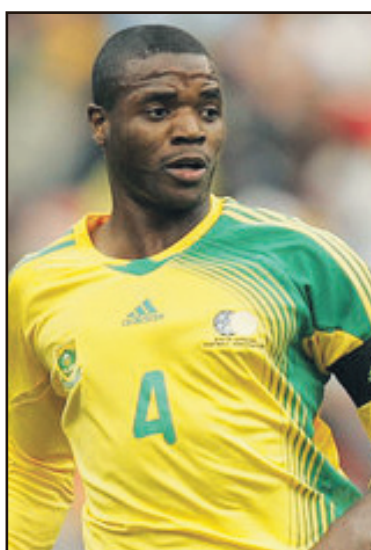
## Stars to shine on grand stage

In less than two weeks the greatest sporting event in the calendar will be taking place in South Africa. For the first time an African country will be hosting a World Cup, and the tournament is already looking like it could be a classic. Countries from all continents around the globe are busy preparing their squads and getting each of their big players ready to perform on a world stage.

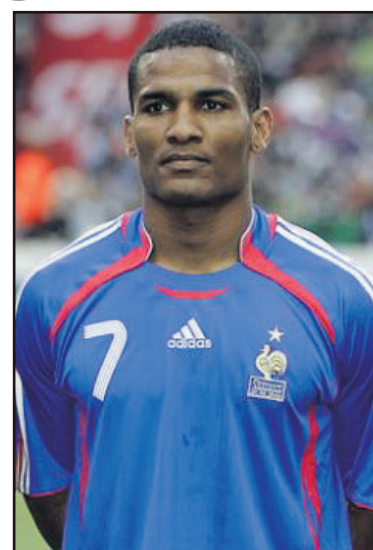
Players from football divisions all over the world will be taking part in the tournament, and of course as ever there will be a larger contingent of English Premier League players involved. Below are several of the players who regularly ply their trade in the English leagues; players who I believe have a great opportunity to showcase their talents, for their country, on the grandest stage of them all.



Carlos Tevez – Argentina



Aaron Mokoena – South Africa



Florent Malouda – France



Robin Van Persie - Netherlands

### Wayne Rooney – England

Where better to start than with the main man in an England shirt. Rooney has had his most prolific goalscoring season at United, almost all of which have been scored in the box. England manager Fabio Capello realises that he is the most important player for England, and has allowed him the same freedom that he enjoys at his club. If England are to win the tournament you would have to think that Rooney will need to be playing at his best, and if England do progress deep into the competition then Rooney isn't a bad bet to be the top scorer in the tournament.

### Didier Drogba – Ivory Coast

Captain for his country, the big centre forward has had an awesome season once again at Chelsea, winning the league and cup double. Undoubtedly the biggest name in African football, Drogba could be the brightest star of the tournament, even if his country doesn't make it very far. He is a man who has seemingly everything one could want in a striker, in that he is strong, quick, a good finisher and great in the air. Both his club and his country would be quite a bit weaker without him, and hopefully he will bring this form for Chelsea into the tournament with him. If the Ivory Coast can provide Drogba with good service then, as he was in the Premier League this season, he could finish with the golden boot.

### Carlos Tevez – Argentina

Some players seem to have controversy and intrigue continually surrounding them, and this is the case with Carlos Tevez. His summer move to Manchester

City, and his subsequent goal celebrations against their local rivals and his former club United, were one of the major talking points in the English season. Undoubtedly City's best player this season, he isn't quite the main man for his country. However, whilst everyone is expecting big things from his countryman Messi, it really wouldn't surprise me if it was this diminutive striker who grabbed the main headlines in South Africa, perhaps with Tevez scoring the winning goal in the final.

### Robin Van Persie - Netherlands

Before the injury which saw RVP miss much of the Premier League season, the Dutchman was playing out of his skin. The main scoring threat at Arsenal, Van Persie was matching Rooney and Drogba, and had he not been injured he could have helped propel the Gunners to Premier League glory, as well as lifting the Premier League golden boot. I think that both Van Persie and his country have been overlooked going into the tournament, and I think if RVP is fit enough, he could be a major star this year. He is a great finisher who can score from all over the penalty area, and if the Dutch adopt an attacking mindset then Van Persie could have the tournament of his life.

### Fernando Torres – Spain

Not a great season at Liverpool, mainly due to his injuries and the fact that the Reds were fairly average as a side all season. But we should not forget that this man is one of the top few strikers in the world, and if Spain play as well as they did at the last European Championships then Torres could finish as the

main man in South Africa. His pace and movement can rip teams apart, and he and David Villa form the best striking partnership of the tournament, so Torres is definitely one to watch for.

### Florent Malouda – France

A couple of years ago I would have laughed at the prospect of Malouda being considered a star for either club or country. However this season the Frenchman has been superb for Chelsea, and has really grown into being one of the best players in the Premier League. Unfortunately in South Africa he will not be surrounded by the quality that he is for Chelsea, so he may struggle to make such an impact on the world stage. That being said, Malouda could help lead his side deep into the competition, and could take another step into being considered one of the better players in world football.

### Steven Pienaar – South Africa

What a tournament this could be for the talented Everton man. As a team South Africa aren't blessed with amazing talent, yet in Pienaar they have a player who could get into quite a few other national squads. I would like to think that he will be given a free license to make things happen for his country, and if South Africa do make it out of their group, which surely is their main hope, then I think it will be largely due to Pienaar playing his absolute heart out. Hopefully the tournament will be a good one for both him and his fellow countrymen.

### Tim Cahill – Australia

Another Everton man who is central to everything his country does. As a team

Australia are decent, if unspectacular, and Cahill epitomises their hard-working attitude. A constant goal threat who can make things happen for his country, hopefully Tim will help his country out of their group.

### Jozy Altidore – USA

Not had the greatest of seasons on loan at Hull, but let us not forget that he was very good for the USA at the Confederations Cup, scoring against European Champions Spain, and he could be a danger to England with his strength and honest hard work. Will not set the tournament alight, but could help cause an upset of two.

### Nicklas Bendtner – Denmark

Some say he is decent, some say he is awful, and that's just Arsenal fans. However Bendtner is the epitome of a player who raises his game for his national side. Of course I don't predict him to be top scorer, or for Denmark to do any better than just escape their group, but I do believe that Bendtner could change a few opinions by scoring some goals on the biggest stage, and by really troubling defences with his, at times, questionable talent.

### Aaron Mokoena – South Africa

Don't get me wrong, the South African captain is not one of the best players in the world. However, at Portsmouth Mokoena flourished under very tough conditions, and showed great heart, determination, and will to succeed. He will need to install every drop of emotion that he possesses into his country, and if his fellow countrymen play with the same drive and heart that he has all

season then they may just make it out of their group. And I'm sure that would be just like winning the tournament for the South African nation.

Hopefully some if not all of these players will help to light up South Africa with great skill, determination, quality and heart. Not all of them will be able to progress as far as they would wish, but I would be surprised if one of these men isn't holding that special trophy aloft come the end of the tournament. And, without being completely biased, it would be really good if that man happened to be Wayne Rooney.



Wayne Rooney – England

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# A Different View of The World Cup

Goal Weekly's Western Australian contributor and familiar ace from Fox Sports coverage in the West is off to Africa for the World Cup, but in a very different role as documentary maker.

Ashley who used to also work for South African Airways is going to be travelling through Africa during the world cup watching games with the locals and meeting former players, coaches, and referees along the way, to see how Africa, the continent feels about hosting their first World Cup.

His journey will start in West Africa visiting the countries who have qualified and watching their national teams play with the locals. He will be in Ghana for the Australia v Ghana game which promises to be an interesting experience. He and his team then head down to East Africa where they will visit Uganda, Sudan Kenya and Tanzania. They then head into South Africa for the semi finals and final.

The documentary is called "Standing at The Touchlines" and you can follow the journey and the team's experiences via their website [www.onthetouchlines.com](http://www.onthetouchlines.com)

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## WAG OF THE WEEK



Anine Bing Age: 27  
InSignificant Other: IF Elfsborg midfielder and Sweden captain, Anders "Taco" Svensson.



## COUCH POTATO DEPT.

\* ALL TIMES ARE AEDT

[goalweekly.com](http://goalweekly.com)



**Monday 31st May**  
5am International Norway vs Montenegro

**Tuesday 1st June**  
3am Central Masters LIVE

**Thursday 3rd June**  
3:30am World Cup Warm-Up Belarus vs Sweden LIVE  
7:30am World Cup Warm-Up Norway vs Ukraine

**Friday 4th June**  
8:15pm World Cup Warm-Up Japan vs Ivory Coast LIVE

**Saturday 5th June**  
4:40am World Cup Warm-Up Slovenia vs New Zealand LIVE

**Sunday 6th June**  
11:15am World Cup Warm-Up Switzerland vs Italy

**Wednesday 9th June**  
4:30am League of Ireland Galway vs Bohemians LIVE



**The Futbol Town Show**  
Every Monday 7pm

**Extra Time Magazine Show**  
Every Wednesday 8pm

**SMFC TV**  
Channel 31  
Every Saturday 10.00am

**The Green Gully Football Show**  
Every Saturday 10.30am



SBS ONE  
Saturday June 5th, 2010



5:30 pm Road to the 2010 FIFA World Cup - This episode looks at the chances of Uruguay and Nigeria at the 2010 FIFA World Cup Final.

6:00 pm Road to the 2010 FIFA World Cup - This episode looks at the chances of Portugal and Mexico at the 2010 FIFA World Cup Final.

Sunday June 6th, 2010

3:00 pm 2010 FIFA World Cup Magazine - In the lead up to the World Cup, SBS presents monthly updates focusing on World Cup qualifiers, FIFA World Cup people and FIFA World Cup archive stories.

3:30 pm Futbol Mundial - Weekly magazine show that travels the globe to bring you the stars of today, the talents of tomorrow and the heroes of the past.

4:00 pm Football Asia - Provides the latest news and updates of the various football leagues across Asia.

4:25 pm The Grand Finale - The official film of the 2006 FIFA World Cup, providing a compelling look at the players and fans at this showpiece of football. Features interviews with Didier Drogba, Horacio Elizondo, Thierry Henry, Jens Lehmann, Michael Ballack, Hidetoshi Nakata and Fabio Cannavaro. Shows unseen and exclusive footage of the tournament - different camera angles, incredible sounds from the pitch and an insight into the colour provided by the fans on the terraces. Directed by Michael Apted and narrated by Pierce Brosnan.

Yes, Pumkin Seed Eaters are back for yet another blockbuster episode! We previewing the VPL which marks the half-way point in what has been a very intriguing season thus far! There is also our Mail Bag/Media Watch segment during which we present a thesis supporting the Pumpkin Seed Eater's view on the FFA and also provide some audio from the World Football Gala event held in London. We also go to Singapore for our Aussies Abroad segment where we catch up with a player and the coach of Gombak United, the club face-off with South Melbourne FC in the Singapore Cup. We hope that you enjoy the show and that you don't find the intro too arousing.... or disturbing!!!!

<http://podcast.pumpkinseedeaters.com/PumpkinSeedEaters-2010Episode4.mp3>

....and check out the pic of the week on the website, which takes you back to one of the greatest national league clubs to ever come out of the A.C.T.!!!!

[www.pumpkinseedeaters.com](http://www.pumpkinseedeaters.com)



Tues Jun 1 Australia v Denmark 9.30 pm  
Fox 2

Sat Jun 5 Australia v USA 10.00 pm  
Fox 3



**Global Football Show**  
Jacob Kagi and Ian Hooper discusses local, national and international football every Thursday night from 7.30-9pm on WA's SportFM 91.3.





# The Spanish Inquisition of La Liga

By Kieran Pender

An own-goal from Luis Prieto in the 3357th minute of Barcelona's La Liga season all but secured a win over Real Valladolid, and in a rather unspectacular way, their second consecutive title. The scene was set for the last round of the season. The title was still up for grabs, none of the three relegation spots were certain, and the final Champions League spot was also open. Real Madrid was heading to Malaga, while Barcelona had to fend off a Valladolid side desperate to fend off relegation.

But in the end, it finished with almost abject normality. Of all the positions still available at the end of round 37, only a minor change in the battle for mid-table mediocrity occurred, and Valladolid slid into relegation.

Barcelona went on to demolish the team from Valladolid, with Messi scoring a brace, while Real Madrid ended their disappointing season with a one-all draw at Malaga. Madrid's spectacular season has seen them spend more than a quarter of a billion dollars on player transfers (most notably Ronaldo and Kaka) but still go out of the Champions League in the round of sixteen, and lose to third division side Alcorcon in the Copa del Rey.

At the time of writing, Madrid have sacked manager Manuel Pellegrini de-

spite him amassing a colossal 96 points this season and speculation is rife that he will be replaced by current Inter manager Jose Mourinho. 'The Special One' has won the Champions League at both Porto and now at Inter, and will be hoping to repeat that feat at the Santiago Bernabeu.

In third place finished the mighty Valencia, a truly remarkable feat given they staved off bankruptcy and only just prevented the sale of Davids Villa and Silva last summer. Behind them in fourth was Sevilla, who had a fairly indifferent season and will be thanking their lucky stars that they scraped fourth.

The team who Sevilla fought off for fourth place are sadly the team that probably deserves it most, Mallorca. At the beginning of this season it appeared as if the island based side could go under, and despite a thread-bare squad, Gregorio Manzano managed to keep the side in fourth for most of the season.

Alas they fell at the final hurdle, and spent the last three rounds in fifth. They finished the season in agony, sitting on the pitch watching the final minutes of Sevilla's game against Almeria, with champagne in hand ready to celebrate the possibility of Champions league football (fourth place in Spain goes into the CL qualifying stage). But Sevilla scored in the 93rd minute, leaving Mallorca shell-shocked, and the ensuing weeks have seen them go into administration and ad-

mit that they will not be able to keep on Manzano due to financial restraints.

At the other end of the table, Real Valladolid's loss to Barcelona coupled with Malaga's draw with Madrid saw the two sides change places in the table. Unfortunate for Valladolid, as it moved them into 18th, and Segunda division football next season.

The two sides who will be joining Valladolid in the second division are Tenerife and Xerez. The Canary Islands side fought valiantly all season, and a win over Valencia on the final day would have seen them stay up, but an Alexis header in the 90th minute cruelly put an end to their season. You really have to feel for the side, they struggled all season and just missed survival. As their coach Jose Luis Oltra put so elegantly "How beautiful football would be if it wasn't for matchday."

Xerez also suffered a cruel blow this season, as the Azulinos, who were stranded in 20th place since round 12, finally started to close the gap on their relegation rivals in the last few games, only to draw with Osasuna on the last weekend.

Sadly, the eternal memory of this La Liga season will be, other than Barcelona's magnificent displays, the two horse race that the league is fast becoming. Third placed Valencia finished an astonishing 25 points behind second placed



Messi was in scintillating form for Barca this year.

Madrid, and with the sale of David Villa to Barcelona, Valencia is even less likely to push either of the top two next season. The other tradition challengers, Sevilla, Villarreal and Atletico Madrid all had rather poor seasons, and Sevilla only just scraped into the last Champions League spot.

Almeria coach Juanma Lillo summed up the situation brilliantly when he said that "The rest of us have been reduced to suppliers of players for the big two," while Sevilla sporting director Ramon Rodriguez Verdejo (also known as Monchi) concurred "It reminds me of Scotland." Sadly, until the television deals

can be fixed so that they are no longer negotiated by individual clubs, the chance of change is unlikely.

The focus in Spain now switches to the national front, with La Furia Roja heading into South Africa as favourites. With such a strong squad, Spain will be looking to erase memories of past World Cup failure by taking home the cup in South Africa.

As also seen in Half Time Heroes, Australia's best web magazine. Check it out at: <http://www.halftimeheroes.com.au/>

## HEY JOE, WHERE YOU GOING WITH THAT GOLDEN BOOT IN YOUR HAND?

Last season's VPL Golden Boot winner, and crowd favourite Joe Dilorio looks to have played his last game for Dandenong Thunder.

The mercurial striker has played the last two and a half seasons at Thunder, in which time he helped the club win promotion to the Premier league in 2008. He then enjoyed his most prolific goal scoring season at Premier League level with 18 goals in 2009 but along with his teammates, has struggled to find the net this season with just two goals so far.

Thunder Coach Stuart Munro commented after Dandenong's match against Hume on Saturday, "I think Joey's going to be moving on. He's getting too much work commitments. He told us last Wednesday that his work schedule was becoming a lot heavier and he hasn't got the commitment required at premier league level. I think Joey's going to move on to a lower division, which is a shame because we really miss him. He scored a lot of goals for us last year. He was a key player. I could've done with him today probably. But unfortunately he wasn't available to us. That's the way it goes. I wish him all the best."

DiIorio's departure coincides with increased competition for the striker's position at Thunder with the arrival of Welsh striker Jamie Reed and the change

to a lone striker system in recent games.



Joey Di Iorio looks as though he has played his last game for Dandenong Thunder.

PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON

## World Cup Screenings

Football Federation Australia announced that Birrarung Marr in Melbourne will host the Football Australia Live Site presented by Optus.

Set in the heart of Melbourne, the Football Australia Live Site presented by Optus will be alive with the all the action, screening the Qantas Socceroos first group stage matches live on two giant screens.

The selection of Birrarung Marr as the Live Site location came through consultation with a number of parties, said Football Federation Australia CEO Ben Buckley.

The Live Sites will be open from two hours before each match, with the crowd entertained by free giveaways and activity from Live Site Presenting Partner, Optus, and Supporting Partner Hyundai, an MC, and special guests from Melbourne Victory.

### LOCATION AND TIMINGS

Mon 14th June – Australia v Germany  
Birrarung Marr – 4:30 am

Sun 20th June – Australia v Ghana  
Birrarung Marr – 12:00 am

Thurs 24th June – Australia v Serbia  
Birrarung Marr – 4:30 am

## Carle joins SFC

Hyundai A-League 2010 Champions Sydney FC has signed Qantas Socceroos attacking midfielder Nicky Carle as its Australian marquee player for the next three seasons, putting the Johnny Warren medal winner in Sky Blue until at least 2013.

One of the premier creative and technically gifted midfielders produced by Australian football, Carle returns to the Hyundai A-League after playing the last four years in Europe with Turkish giants Genclerbirligi S.K. and English sides Bristol City and Crystal Palace.

The 28-year-old crowd pleaser brings excitement and flair to the Sky Blues – the perfect compliment for a team, in the second year of Vitezslav Lavicka's rein, that will play a more attacking and entertaining brand of football in season six of the A-League.

Carle follows fellow Sydney juniors Scott Jamieson and Liam Reddy to the club, further bolstering a side that features attacking duo Alex Brosque and Mark Bridge, midfielder Stuart Musialik and young guns Kofi Danning, Sebastian Ryall and Rhyon Grant.

Carle will wear number 10 for the Sky Blues, taking over from retired club legend Steve Corica.

"I couldn't be happier to sign on with Sydney FC. I am returning to my hometown and joining a club that is leading

the way in Australian football," Carle said. "My focus is now purely on giving everything I have for Sydney FC. I am in good shape and will work as hard as I ever have."

"I have the utmost respect for Vitezslav Lavicka and we already have a great relationship so I am looking forward to working hard under him and to keep the success going.

Carle made his National Soccer League (NSL) debut on October 5 that year for Sydney Olympic where he would go on to play 86 games.

After a season with French side Troyes AC, Carle returned to Australia in 2003 and joined the Marconi Stallions before signing with the Newcastle Jets for the inaugural A-League season in 2005.

In 42 games for the Jets between 2005 and 2007, Carle led his side to consecutive finals appearances and was rewarded with stunning his 2006/07 season by being named the Johnny Warren medallist and also snaring the goal of the year.

Carle also has a distinguished international career, having represented Australia at every level and earning 50 caps overall and scoring 18 goals.





**FULL NAME:** Martin John  
**BIRTHPLACE:** Melbourne, Australia  
**BIRTH DATE:** 23-5-80  
**HEIGHT:** 183cm  
**WEIGHT:** 85Kg  
**MARRIED:** Nope (Single)  
**CAR:** Toyota Camry Sportivo  
**NICKNAME:** Marty  
**PREVIOUS CLUBS:** Melbourne Knights (NSL), Altona Magic  
**REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS:** Australian U17's (1997), Australian U20's (1999)  
**CHILDHOOD FOOTBALL HERO:** Diego Maradona  
**FAVOURITE O/S PLAYER:** Gianluigi Buffon  
**FAVOURITE HAL PLAYER:** Nick Ward  
**FAVOURITE FORMER SOCCEROO:** Charlie Yankos  
**FAVOURITE CURRENT SOCCEROO:** Tim Cahill  
**MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A PLAYER:** Australian U17's v Chile in Santiago, Chile  
**MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A FAN:** Australia v Uruguay 2005  
**MOST MEMORABLE GOAL YOU'VE SCORED:** I save them  
**EARLIEST FOOTBALL MEMORY:** Playing Juniors with mates at North Glenroy SC  
**FUNNIEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL:** Alex Kira falling over with no one around him when I played for Knights against Sydney Olympic  
**BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:** Not playing A-League...yet!  
**WORST INJURY:** Shoulders  
**MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT:** Damien Mori  
**FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND:** Knights Stadium  
**SUPERSTITIONS:** None  
**TYPICAL MATCH DAY MEAL:** Chicken Focaccia  
**WHAT ARE YOUR STRENGTHS:** Shot Stopping  
**WHAT ARE YOUR WEAKNESSES:** Kicking  
**FAVOURITE TEAM WHEN GROWING UP:** Bayern Munich  
**FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS:** AFL, Tennis  
**FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTSPERSON:** Tiger Woods :)  
**FAVOURITE FOODS:** Anything with chicken  
**FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS:** Matt Damon  
**HOBBIES:** Gym, Going out with friends  
**FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT:** Portsea  
**FAVOURITE NIGHTSPOT:** Rah-Bar  
**IDEAL DATE:** Jenifer Hawkins  
**FAVOURITE TV SHOWS:** 2 and a Half Men  
**FAVOURITE MUSIC:** Funky House  
**FAVOURITE FILM:** Remember the Titans  
**LAST SOCCER SHIRT YOU BOUGHT:** Australian Strip  
**FUNNIEST RUMOUR YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT YOURSELF:** Don't know they're usually all true hehehe!  
**BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:** Coaches  
**BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER:** Bad pitches  
**FOOTBALL AMBITION:** Win a VPL title with Sunshine  
**WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET?** Gianluigi Buffon  
**YOUR TIP FOR THIS YEAR'S WORLD CUP:** Spain



# Martin John

Sunshine George Cross

PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON





**Goal!**  
W e e k l y

# SOUTH HOBART

South Hobart lines up before its historic 7-1 win over the Western Knights in a Tasmanian Premier League fixture which marked the club's 100 year anniversary. Andy Brennan scored five goals and Jonathon Lo grabbed a brace to mark the monumental occasion in style.

**Back Row (L-R):** Matthew Brown, Jim Pennicott, Sam Kruijver, Daniel Brown, Tom Roach, Jonathon Lo  
**Front Row (L-R):** Andy Brennan, Shae Hickey, Bart Beecroft (captain), Laim Scott, Kostas Kanakarīs

PHOTO: ADAM MUYT



# QSL approaches halfway stage

By Jarrod Ellis

The Hyundai QSL is in full swing now with the halfway point of the season fast approaching. Round 10 began on Saturday night with Brisbane Strikers hosting Whitsunday Miners and the second NQ derby of the season kicking off in Mareeba as FNQ Bulls faced off against NQ Razorbacks.

Whitsunday Miners have gone through a recent run of good form, winning three from their last four games and after a 5-2 win over CQ rivals Capricorn Cougars in Round 9 sat in fifth spot on the table only seven points behind Brisbane.

Coach Troy Mundy stated before the match that he believed that after the big win over the Cougars the Miners had the potential to upset the Strikers and set themselves up for an assault on the top four.

“If we can get some points out of the next three weeks it will be good,” he said, “We’re looking at maybe reaching the top four in three weeks. There’s a real buzz around the club at the moment because we’re performing the best we have in our history”.

The Miners chances of securing a result were increased with the late withdrawals of Brisbane’s skipper Chay Hews and centre-half Jason Shade due to injury.

The opening stages of the match saw Whitsunday rise to coach Mundy’s hopes, controlling the ball and creating chances up front.

In only the fourth minute Ben Schaper was unlucky to not give the visitors the lead as he ran unchallenged into the Brisbane box to rifle off a shot. With Strikers keeper Brendan White maintaining good positioning at his near post though Schaper was unable to capitalise on his chance, his shot crashing into the side netting.

Two minutes later Whitsunday’s star forward Tyson Masters delivered the ball to Daniel Scotton on the edge of the area. Scotton let loose with a powerful shot that left White stranded but the ball didn’t stay low enough, skimming the bar as it went over.

Brisbane have developed a reputation for being able to grind out results over the course of this season as injuries hit hard and Whitsunday would find out about their ability to score against the run of play in the tenth minute of the game.

After winning a corner on the right side of the pitch Reagan Alder played it short to Matt Thurtell before getting a return ball and playing it into the area. The Miners defence was caught ball watching as the cross sailed towards the back post and a waiting Sean Burke. Burke wouldn’t prove as wasteful as his opponents, rising high to power a header past the outstretched arm of Brad Moss.

Miners’ midfielder Kevin Nguyen came close to scoring an equaliser with a long range effort a few moments later, drawing an excellent save from Brendan White.

Brisbane were a goal to the good and beginning to control the midfield as the dominated possession for extended periods. Things would only get better for the home side as Miners’ defender Rick DeBoer brought down Matt Thurtell with a rash challenge just outside the penalty area. Referee Nathan MacDonald immediately blew his whistle and reached for his top pocket to produce a red card and give DeBoer a very early return to the dressing rooms.

With a numerical advantage Brisbane would have been expected to press their advantage but seemed content to play a con-



Townsville's Nathan Whitton (NO 2) attempts to stop Bulls Striker David Ruiz. PHOTO: JIM HATCHMAN



Townsville's Jake Navarro and David Han try to close down Bulls Larry Maggio as he shoots at goal. PHOTO: JIM HATCHMAN

servative style of football for the remainder of the half.

The second half provided a change in attitude from Brisbane as they surged forward at every opportunity, looking to further extend their lead. Burke, Alder and Angus proved to be the main danger men for the home side, peppering the Miners’ goal but couldn’t put the ball past an in form Moss. As the match went into its last fifteen minutes the home side launched attack after attack at the Miners’ goal but came up short time after time due to their efforts breaking down in and around the penalty area of a visiting team that was defending desperately and well. Many times, either poor options were chosen by the home side or attacks were spoiled by over-elaboration when a simple pass or a shot might have been a better option.

Jordan Farina was brought on with only minutes of the match remaining but he would make a telling contribution, providing the cross that would secure the points for Brisbane. Positioning himself inside the Miners’ penalty box as Brisbane worked up the pitch in a sweeping passing move Farina received the ball unchallenged and swung in a low cross that swept across the six-yard box. Thurtell, who had proved a nuisance for the visitor’s defence finally got his just reward as he slid in to tap the ball into the net and give his side a 2-0 win.

The other match on Saturday was the NQ derby, the Bulls hosting the Razorbacks in Mareeba. The Bulls won out in the previous derby this season, defeating the Razorbacks 3-1 on their own ground and the result wasn’t too different this time around as the Bulls capitalised on an excellent second

half to win 2-0. David Ruiz an Josiah Rusch are the recognised goal scorers for FNQ but on this occasion it was Nathan Bird’s time to shine as he bagged a double, netting in the 69th and 85th minute.

The win keeps FNQ well placed for a spot in the finals race in only the clubs second year in the QSL. After a bright start to the season the Bulls had appeared to be struggling for form of late but after their convincing win over Bundaberg Spirit last week and a second NQ derby win Peter Tokesi’s men are looking like an outside shot at the championship once again.

Sunshine Coast FC, the undefeated league leaders headed north to Rockhampton on Sunday for their match against Capricorn Cougars. The Cougars defence came under fire after giving up four goals in the second half in their match against Whitsunday Miners last week, losing the match 5-2 after

leading 2-1 with half and hour to go.

This time around the Cougars defence was much more solid as they pressure Sunshine Coast but ultimately went down 1-0. Coast youngster Ryan Delahunty was the hero for the visitors, scoring the only goal of the match in first-half extra time.

The final match of the round saw QAS host cellar dwellers Bundaberg Spirit at Meakin Park on Sunday afternoon. The QAS side have had impressive performances over recent weeks though with a draw and a win followed by last minute loss to the Sunshine Coast last weekend.

That form carried into the game against the Spirit as QAS destroyed the visitors 6-1. Bundaberg had no answer for the skilful play of the youngsters particularly Ben Halloran who carved up the Spirit defence on the way to a hat-trick.

LADDER												
	P	W	D	L	For	Ag	GD	Pts				
1 Sunshine Coast	10	10	0	0	32	12	20	30				
2 Brisbane Strikers	10	6	2	2	18	6	12	20				
3 FNQ Bulls	10	6	0	4	24	21	3	18				
4 NQ Razorbacks	10	5	1	4	19	11	8	16				
5 QAS	9	3	1	5	23	26	-3	10				
6 Whitsunday Miners	9	3	1	5	14	18	-4	10				
7 Capricorn Cougars	10	2	2	6	10	20	-10	8				
8 Bundaberg Spirit	10	0	1	9	8	34	-26	1				

RESULTS												
Brisbane Strikers 2 (Burke 10, Thurtell 90) v Whitsunday Miners 0												
FNQ Bulls 2 (Bird 69,85) v NQ Razorbacks 0												
Capricorn Cougars 0 v Sunshine Coast Fire 1 (Delahunty 45)												
Qld Academy Sport 6 (Halloran 35,66,82 Buljubasic 26,50 Quinn 37) v Bundaberg Spirit 1 (Stephenson 64)												

NEXT ROUND												
ROUND 11												
Capricorn Cougars v Bundaberg Spirit												
Sat 5 June 7:00pm												
Whitsunday Miners v NQ Razorbacks												
Sat 5 June 7:30pm												
FNQ Bulls v QAS												
Sat 5 June 8:00pm												
Sunshine Coast FC v Brisbane Strikers												
Sun 6 June 4:00pm												



Townsville Razorbacks Coach Ken Mitchell, NQ FURY Assistant Coach Stuart McClaren, FNQ Bulls Coach Peter Tokesi, comparing notes before the game. PHOTO: JIM HATCHMAN



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- Reflexology pool ● Cold plunge pools
- Private massage day spa retreat ● Cafe
- Team bookings welcome





# Bonnyrigg snatch lead in summit battle

By Mike Salter

The NSW Premier League's 14th round began on Saturday night with the most keenly-anticipated encounter of the season thus far. First-placed Marconi lost their second game on the trot at the hands of their closest challengers Bonnyrigg, who now join Marconi at the top, sneaking ahead of the Italian-backed club on goal difference. A penalty for dead-ball specialist Daniel Severino in the first half, and a superb team goal in the second, finished off by ex-Leeds United midfielder Jamie McMaster, was enough for Bonnyrigg at the Serbian Centre.

A point for Sydney United at the Olympic Athletic Centre kept them in clear third place. Their hosts the West Sydney Berries went in front in just the second minute, but the men from Edensor Park equalised just after the hour to record their third 1-1 draw in a row. Fourth place is still occupied by Aytek Genc's Blacktown City Demons, who failed to capitalise on their numerical advantage in the second half at Rockdale City, a 0-0 draw resulting. Details of that one can be found below.

The Sutherland Sharks continued their good form with a 3-0 away win over the South Coast Wolves, while Bankstown City continued their excellent recent record against Sydney Olympic, downing them 2-1 at the Belmore Sportsground. The match between Manly United and APIA-Leichhardt at Cromer Park was rained out.

## Rockdale City 0-0 Blacktown City

In a mediocre game played out on a rain-soaked pitch, Rockdale City did well to hold out with ten men for most of the second half against a disjointed Blacktown side. The result, however, does little to improve the hosts' chances of a finals berth, or Blacktown's chances of making a late run for the premiership.

The heavy surface bedevilled both sides' attempts to play decent football in the first half, and the first chance of note didn't arrive until the tenth minute, when Blacktown's Luke Roodenburg chested a cross down for Mitchell Long, who fired wide of goal with his right foot. Blacktown, enjoying the lion's share of possession, went close again on 21 minutes, when Lachlan Cahill went on a driving run through midfield, eventually sending in a shot which Ben McNamara saved with some difficulty.

Soon after the half-hour mark came the first of the incidents which gave the match a testy character. A harsh challenge by Roodenburg in the centre circle attracted some choice words from the Rockdale midfield, after which the Blacktown man slyly head-butted the



Sutherland Sharks' hot shot youngster Blake Powell scored a hat-trick in their 3-0 victory over South Coast Wolves on Sunday at WIN Stadium PHOTO: CARLOS FURTADO/FNSW



NSW top of the table action between Bonnyrigg White Eagles and Marconi. PHOTO: CARLOS FURTADO/FNSW

unfortunate Robert di Meglio. The referee produced only a yellow card, and three more cautions followed in quick succession as tempers began to become frayed.

Blacktown's best chance of the game arrived on 38 minutes, when Joel Chianese, easily Blacktown's best player of the afternoon, surged through the midfield and sent a fine pass through for Long. The Blacktown striker was uncharacteristically sluggish in the chase, however, and the Rockdale defence managed to clear just as Long prepared to shoot from close range.

No score at the half, but the second period began with a moment of

drama when Rockdale's Adam Kir, one of the players booked in the first half, went in recklessly on Cahill by the touchline. Kir was duly awarded his second yellow card, and the hosts were down to ten.

Rockdale pulled all but lone striker Sam Awad back in defence, and held out resolutely for the remainder of the game. The home side were in fact surprisingly dangerous on the break-away, and with Blacktown's crossing rarely finding its mark, it was Rockdale who created two chances around the hour mark; Dominic Hudap had a low right-footed shot saved by Matt Ryan on 56 minutes, and soon afterwards Steve Apolevski did well to get

in a shot under pressure in the inside-right channel. Again, Ryan managed to hold on.

An inspired run down the left by Chianese ended with a shot into the side netting, when the young winger would have been better advised to cut the ball back. Blacktown continued to find Rockdale's stout defence an impenetrable wall, and they were still being tested at the other end; a volley from substitute Almir Dizdagic whistled over the bar on 79 minutes, and another Rockdale sub, Jeffrey Issa, should have done better two minutes later when a free kick rebounded to him on the edge of the area.

Blacktown's final chance to break

## NSW LADDER

	P	W	L	Pts
Bonnyrigg White Eagles	14	8	5	29
Marconi Stallions	14	9	2	29
Sydney United	14	7	5	26
Blacktown City FC	14	7	4	25
Sutherland Sharks	14	7	2	23
Rockdale City Suns	14	4	7	19
APIA Leichhardt Tigers	13	5	2	17
Bankstown City	14	4	2	14
Manly United FC	13	3	3	12
South Coast Wolves	14	3	3	12
Sydney Olympic	14	3	2	11
West Sydney Berries	14	2	5	11

## NSW RESULTS

NSW PREMIER LEAGUE: ROUND 14: FIRST GRADE: Bonnyrigg White Eagles 2 (Daniel Severino 31m pen Jamie McMaster 73m) Marconi Stallions 0, Sydney Olympic 1 (A Petratos 30m) Bankstown City 2 (Richard Luksic 26m Zlatko Joseski 63m pen), Rockdale City Suns 0 Blacktown City FC 0, Manly United FC APIA Leichhardt Tigers Washed Out, West Sydney Berries 1 (Sash Tirovski 2m) Sydney United 1 (Peter Markovic 63m), South Coast Wolves 0 Sutherland Sharks 3 (Blake Powell 38/53/58m).

GRADE 20: Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1 Marconi Stallions 0, Sydney Olympic 0 Bankstown City 2, Rockdale City Suns 1 Blacktown City FC 3, Manly United FC APIA Leichhardt Tigers Washed Out, West Sydney Berries 1 Sydney United 4, South Coast Wolves Sutherland Sharks Washed Out.

GRADE 18: Bonnyrigg White Eagles 3 Marconi Stallions 1, Sydney Olympic 2 Bankstown City 0, Manly United FC APIA Leichhardt Tigers Washed Out.

NSW SUPER LEAGUE: ROUND 11: FIRST GRADE: Fraser Park FC Mt Druitt Town Rangers Washed Out, Central Coast Lightning 2 (B Smith 21m M Mitchell 78m) Sydney University 1 (L Delaney 48m), Spirit FC 2 (L Papanicolaou 30m B Gough 44m) St George FC 0, FC Bossy Liverpool 2 (David Wilson 56/92m) Macarthur Rams 5 (S Messam 10/88m A Malmierca 24m C Gomez 45m A De La Cuadra 87m), Parramatta Eagles 2 (K Elrich 23m S Ardlie 43m) Dulwich Hill 1 (M Lloyd-Green 48m), Northern Tigers Granville Rage Washed Out.

GRADE 20: Fraser Park FC Mt Druitt Town Rangers Washed Out, Central Coast Lightning 2 Sydney University 1,

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE: ROUND 11: FIRST GRADE: Stanmore Hawks 0 Schofield Scorpions 1 (T Simpson 62m), Blacktown Spartans 2 (T Macrae 44m G McPherson 85m) Hills Brumbies 2 (L Darkoh 56m B Mitrovich 65m).

GRADE 20: Stanmore Hawks 1 Schofield Scorpions 3, Blacktown Spartans 1 Hills Brumbies 3.

## NEXT ROUND

Round 15  
7pm Sat 5/Jun S'land Sharks v B'rigg White Eagles  
Seymour Shaw Park  
3pm Sun 6/Jun Manly Utd v Rockdale City Suns  
Cromer Park  
3pm Sun 6/Jun Bankstown City v West Syd Berries  
Jensen Park  
3pm Sun 6/Jun APIA L'hardt Tigers v Marconi Stallions  
Leichhardt Oval  
3pm Sun 6/Jun Blacktown City v Syd Olympic  
Lily Homes  
3pm Sun 6/Jun Sth Coast Wolves v Syd Utd  
Win Stadium

the deadlock arrived a minute from time, when Kain Rastall advanced from midfield to connect with a promising right-wing move. His shot, however, was met by a lunging interception, and injury time ticked uneventfully away. A deserved point for Rockdale, and a frustrating afternoon for Aytek Genc and his men.



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Monday 31st May 2010

19





South Hobart in control. Mount Wellington looms in the background



South Hobart banner flies proudly on a special day



Tussle in the middle of the park

Chris Hudson's *A Century of Soccer, 1898-1998* is a comprehensive history of the game in Tasmania. There aren't too many like it in Australia and it's a tremendous model for historians of other states. It's a shame then that it begins with a massive error: the repetition of the fallacy that "British Association Football first came to Australia in 1880" with the now legendary King's School v. Wanderers game in Sydney.

In doing so he manages to obscure the fact that the earliest recorded game actually took place in his own state, Tasmania. On May 10 1879, the Cricketers Football club played an internal scratch match using the "English Association rules". The Mercury reports: *The natural amount of inconvenience was felt by most of the players who essayed the novel rules for the first time, the mysteries of off and on side and the obligation to leave the hands idle proving almost insurmountable. After some practice no doubt those difficulties will be overcome. As if to foreshadow the sometimes shambolic organisational skills of those running Australian soccer, it is reported that the "club played without goal posts; as Mr. Briant who had promised to bring them, did not do so, coats were used to mark the goal instead."*

A month later, on 7 June, the Cricketers met New Town for the first recorded inter-club soccer match. These clubs met for the return match on Marsh's ground, New Town, on Saturday afternoon, playing the English Association Rules. The result was a draw, no goals being kicked by either side. Alas, this was no sparkling beginning of the beautiful game in Australia. Of the four Hobart football clubs, City and Railway insisted on playing under Victorian Rules. New Town's own code resembled the Victorian game. The need for code conformity and the weight of numbers meant the rejection of soccer. The game seems to have retreated into the background until its re-emergence in 1898, and firm establishment in the early 1900s on the back of migration from the British Isles. Figures like JB Honeysett and his family were vital in this process.

It is no slight on Hudson that he missed this part of his own state's history. These documents are buried in the archive and hard to find. My own discovery of this important footnote to Australian sport history is due in large part to recent developments in searchable digital databases. It would have been a fluke if Hudson had indeed found the reference using the old-fashioned technology at his disposal.

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It was with this sense of Hobart's history and the quiet but consistent strength of the game in that city that I travelled to South Hobart FC's Washington St ground for its Centenary Gala Day and Premier League game against the Glenorchy Knights.

Cut into the side of one of Mount Wellington's many foothills, the ground looks like it's been there a long time, with a beautiful old wooden grandstand sitting next to a bigger, more recent addition. The ground slopes away at between 5 and 10 degrees, like many things in Hobart as if poised to slide into the Derwent River. On the far wing and southern end wire-fencing that prevented match-viewing from those boundaries only increased the sense of lop-sidedness.

I had arrived nice and early to catch as many of the day's events as possible – not early enough to see the reserves game won comfortably by South, 4-0, but in time to see a community club celebrating its own longevity and success. I was particularly looking forward to seeing the club's memorabilia display, which contained a number of trophies and photographs that spoke of the club's history and success. But it was a touch disappointing because the excellent quality of the material on display suggested that many other riches might have been included to make an even more impressive statement.

Prior to the game, club juniors and local kids were involved in organised on-field activities that seemed both casual and enjoyable. A series of wandering commentators (who all seemed to be named Ian) brought their own daggy brand of comedy to the day.

There was a quiet dignity to all of the preliminary activities that caused me to reflect on what we have to endure prior to A League games, where the frantic passion is mostly fabricated and forced. The people at South Hobart have 100 reasons for passion and pride; you just get the sense that they see no need to be "in-your-face" about it.

The relaxed pace of the preliminaries made way for a quickening expectation. South had gone to a lot of trouble in making this day and a series of events heightened the anticipation of the big game.

Perhaps the most impressive aspect related to the South Hobart strips. Guided by historic photos and descriptions of early playing strips, replica tops had been tailored for the day. When the players ran out in their Rich Maroon tops with a white V and waist band across the front, the sense of occasion was truly lifted. Though the tops' silk-like appearance gave one Glenorchy supporter the opportunity to heckle, "Go the team in pyjamas!"

A little bit of magic occurred at the singing of the

Anthem. Unfortunately, the comedy lads had so enjoyed themselves with the microphone and PA that the poor machine must have been exhausted and began to pour smoke just before Rebecca Downes attempted to sing into it. She was forced to soldier on a capella and in the considerate silence belted out a truly powerful and moving rendition. It served to raise expectations just that little more.

Preliminaries over, the game started at a good pace with neither side taking control immediately. In fact the teams looked well-matched. And while South might have had the slight edge, there were no shots at goal for the first 15 minutes or so. I took several impressions from this period: that both sides were up for the occasion; that the game was played in a good spirit with very few niggly incidents; that the long ball game I might have been expecting was nowhere to be seen (in fact one tactical criticism that might be made was the failure to use the long ball occasionally as a means of variation).

But most surprising was the apparent age of the players. None of them looked over 25. Where were the grizzled old hard men in defence; the slow bodies with wise heads in the mid-field; strong, experienced backs-to-the-goalkeeper forwards? Nowhere to be seen. In their stead a bunch of energetic young men running their hearts out.

For all the effort, goals were in short supply, and South managed to score the only goal of the half via a tap-in by Andy Brennan from a Shae Hickey pass, a score which just about reflected the play.

The half-time break provided another memorable moment. The 100-metre sprint produced a race that saw the two front-runners neck-and-neck all the way. The Knights' Matthew Nowicki just pipped Toby Macgregor of Tilford Zebras.

After half-time it seemed we'd see more of the same, with South still shading it. Their stand-out was Shae Hickey, energetic, skillful and intelligent, every time he received the ball he looked dangerous. He was the one player I could see making the transition to the VPL.

Yet a couple of moments, including a cracking volley from Mnyonge Kamba suggested that Glenorchy were not out of it, not yet. Then just after the hour things fell apart for the Knights who seemed collectively to forget how they had contained the South strikers and started to give them too much space. Andy Brennan banged in another four goals with Jon Lo adding two, all in the space of 30 minutes. James Hope managed to get one back for Glenorchy.

What had been a balanced tussle turned into a hiding more lop-sided than the ground on which they were playing. And while it served to raise

the spirits of the South faithful it was a bit of a shame for us neutrals. South deserved to win it. A 3-1 margin might have adequately reflected the game. The Glenorchy team deserved a less brutal memorial of their performance. In the post-game ceremony a number of trophies and awards were given out. To no-one's surprise Brennan (a 17-year-old still in Grade 11!) took out the JB Honeysett trophy for Best on Ground. Indeed he demonstrated the ability to finish off scoring opportunities better than some of the trundlers doing the rounds in the VPL.

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I left the ground with a great sense of satisfaction, having seen a game played by young men who were possibly playing above themselves (and probably above my expectation) and loving every minute of it. I also saw a crowd that enjoyed itself: the South supporters suffused with pride for their history and their team's performance; the Knights supporters, nonetheless good natured and cheery, despite the hiding and allowing for the eternal off-side complaints we expect hampered teams to make.

Among the Knights' supporters were a good number of Somalis, presumably following their team's four Somali players. The presence of these supporters brought home once again the role that soccer has had in giving the displaced and exiled an entrée into Australian life. Like many crowds around Australia, this one was clearly multicultural but in a way that differed from every other crowd I'd experienced.

So much about this day was different from my usual soccer fare. It occurred to me that for the first time in Australia I had attended a game between clubs that seemed comfortable about just being there. There was nothing strange, foreign or culturally threatening about a bunch of grown men playing soccer in this environment. This suggests a lot about the maturity of Tasmanian soccer, the South Hobart Football Club and the people involved in the game. But it also says a lot about the benefits of a club being aware of its own history and having a sense of home. For any number of reasons clubs in Melbourne do not share the security or sense of belonging felt by South Hobart.

Ultimately the day showed how important it is to feel a part of an ongoing history. There are many within the game who want to burn the past and only look to the future. I wish they could have been among the 600 at South Hobart to get an insight into what our game has meant and still means to its flourishing grass roots.

Words by Ian Syson  
Photos by Adam Muyt



Dual scorer John Lo (No.11) in first half action



The Glenorchy goal is under siege as a packed grandstand looks on



South Hobart, undefeated champions in 1920



Andy Brennan receives the Honeysett Trophy for a Best on Ground performance, with coach Ken Morton in tow.



# South Hobart lead by 11 points

By Walter Pless

South Hobart took what is probably an unassailable 11-point lead at the top of the Forestry Tasmania Southern Premier League ladder when they thrashed second-placed Glenorchy Knights 7-1 at South Hobart last Sunday.

It was the occasion of South Hobart's 100th anniversary and the Knights were no match for the home side after the break.

Seventeen-year-old Andy Brennan netted five goals for South in only his third senior appearance.

Brennan made it 1-0 in the 32nd minute when he was left with a simple tap-in after Knights keeper Ben Peter could only parry Jonathon Lo's shot after the striker was put through by Tom Roach.

The floodgates opened in the second half as Brennan netted a hat-trick in the space of 8 minutes.

He made it 2-0 from Liam Scott's pass in the 61st minute, 3-0 in the 64th after another good pass from Scott, and 4-0 in the 68th minute after being put through by Roach.

Lo added the fifth in the 73rd minute from Brennan's cross before substitute James Hope pulled a goal back for the Knights with a header from Juma Barabara's cross.

Brennan netted his fifth goal of the match 7 minutes from the end and Lo completed the rout by scoring in the 86th minute.

Last Friday night, Glenorchy Knights went down 1-0 to fifth-placed Kingborough Lions United at home at KGV Park and that made it five games without a win for the Knights.

A free-kick by Tom McDonald in the 20th minute settled the issue, but the Knights missed numerous chances and also hit the woodwork twice.

South Hobart increased their lead at the top to a massive 14 points on Saturday afternoon by downing bottom-side Olympia Warriors 3-1 at South Hobart.

Brennan netted another two goals and Lo one, while Lee Mason grabbed Olympia's consolation goal.

South's lead was cut back to 11 points on Saturday night when Tilford Zebras moved into second spot with a 5-3 away win over sixth-placed Clarence United at Wentworth Park.

Zebras almost scored in the 2nd minute when Ben Crosswell headed Dwayne Walsh's right-wing cross against the bar. Jayden Welch headed the rebound over the bar.

A brilliant pass by Jonathon Ladic set up Crosswell for the first goal in the 11th minute, while two goals by Walsh made it 3-0 at the interval for the visitors.

Walsh made it 2-0 on the half-hour from Ricky Self's right-wing cross, and the same player added the third in the 34th minute from another precise through-ball by Ladic.

Jayden Welch netted in the 56th minute following Ladic's free-kick to make it 4-0, but Clarence then made an amazing come-back with two goals in 14 minutes late in the match.

Luke Cripps reduced the arrears in the 71st minute when his shot went in off the underside of the bar, while a delightful chip from the right by Joseph Stevens made it 4-2.

Ladic's goal for Zebras three minutes from the end restored the three-goal buffer, but Cripps struck again in injury time to make the final score a more respectable 5-3.

In the Forestry Tasmania Northern Premier League, leaders Northern Rangers and second-placed Devonport City drew 2-2 at the latter's Valley Road headquarters.

Third-placed Ulverstone travelled to Montello and beat sixth-ranked Burnie United 6-5 in an amazing match, while seventh-placed Somerset succumbed 3-1 at home at Cardigan Street to fifth-placed Riverside Olympic.

In the Saturday evening match, second-last Launceston City went down 4-3 at home to fourth-ranked Prospect Knights at Mitsubishi Park.

## NORTH RESULTS

Somerset 1 Riverside Olympic 3 HT 0-0  
Burnie United 5 Ulverstone 6 HT 1-2  
Devonport City 2 Northern Rangers 2 HT 1-2  
Launceston City 3 Prospect Knights 4 HT 1-2

## SOUTH RESULTS

Glenorchy Knights 0 Kingborough Lions 1 HT 0-1  
Hobart Olympia 1 South Hobart 3 HT 0-3  
Clarence United 3 Tilford Zebras 5 HT 0-3

New Town Eagles -v- Taroona 14:30 Sun

## NORTH LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Northern Rangers	8	5	3	0	30	13	18
Devonport City	8	5	2	1	31	14	17
Prospect Knights	8	5	1	2	31	21	16
Ulverstone	8	5	1	2	27	17	16
Riverside Olympic	8	4	2	2	18	12	14
Burnie United	8	3	0	5	30	20	9
Somerset	8	3	0	5	16	30	9
Launceston City	8	2	0	6	18	22	6
Launceston United	8	0	0	8	8	57	0

## SOUTH LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Hobart	11	10	1	0	35	7	31
Tilford Zebras	11	6	2	3	30	25	20
Glenorchy Knights	10	5	2	3	24	11	17
Kingborough Lions	11	4	2	4	15	21	17
Clarence United	11	3	4	4	21	22	13
New Town Eagles	10	2	4	4	17	17	10
Taroona	9	2	2	5	15	27	8
Hobart Olympia	11	0	3	8	11	30	3

## NTH NEXT ROUND

Round 12  
Friday 4th June  
Tilford Zebras v Glenorchy Knights KGV Park 8pm

Saturday 5th June  
Taroona v South Hobart Kelvedon Park 2.30pm  
Clarence United v New Town Eagles Wentworth Park 2 6.30pm

Sunday 6th June  
Hobart Olympia v Kingborough Lions South Hobart 2.30pm

## STH NEXT ROUND

Round 10  
Saturday 5th June  
Launceston United v Burnie United Birch Avenue 2.30pm  
Ulverstone v Somerset Ulverstone Showgrounds 2.30pm  
Launceston City v Riverside Olympic Mitsubishi Park 4.30pm  
Northern Rangers v Prospect Knights NTCA 6.30pm  
Devonport City - Bye



South Hobart's 17-year-old striker Andy Brennan...7 goals in two games. PHOTO: WALTER PLESS



South Hobart's Shae Hickey (foreground), who starred in the match, and Knights captain Josh Fielding. PHOTO: WALTER PLESS

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# Karlovich snatches late winner for the ‘Stars’

By Nat Adamopoulos

**MetroStars Captain Ivan Karlovich played the perfect leadership role for his side with a last chance charge, scoring an 88th minute goal to give his side a win against Raiders at a rainsoaked Croatian Sports Centre. After missing a chance in the first minute of the game, his header being cleared off the line by Raiders Michael Acton, Karlovich made no mistake in the final stages finishing the match with a goal and the three points.**

For the first time this season MetroStars had both their strikers Scott Tunbridge and Michael Matricciani available who both lined up front, dropping Jackson Groves back into the midfield to play out wide on the right. MetroStars began the game with their usual style of play using their strength, speed and physicality to get the advantage of their opponents. Within the first minute they already looked dangerous, Matricciani with a half chance that went wide of goals, then shortly after a low corner kick from Louis Brain had Karlovich in perfect position, heading the ball into goal for defender Michael Acton to clear off the line and out of play.

Raiders had an early chance as well, an opportunity coming in the 8th minute with Nic Kuzman coming from midfield to supply a ball out wide for the young gun Craig Goodwin. As Goodwin ran in towards goal, Metrostars keeper Dan Godley came off his line and was forced to dive to his left as the shot went skimming across the face of goal and just wide of the far post. Matricciani was in the mix yet again in the 14th minute but blasted his shot far and wide off target. Just five minutes later the momentum swung back to Raiders with the Kuzman/Goodwin partnership that was prevalent, tall timber Kuzman in possession looking to give the ball off to Goodwin but this time exciting youngster Jackson Groves putting in a great tackle to stop the opportunity to score.

As the heavens opened up the skillful football spectacle was brought down to a more gritty hardworking display of football with both sides showing a determination to open up the score card. Perry Mitris (Adelaide United Youth Team) only with the Stars for a couple of weeks featured heavily in the first half, the youngster still finding his place in the side was having difficulty showing his technical style of football in the conditions. Raiders keeper Atkins was up against it, his goal kicks being held up with the tough strong breeze against him,



MetroStars Louis Brain is tested by Raiders Sean Brennan.  
PHOTO: ADAM BUTLER

but despite this MetroStars weren’t able to utilize the wind advantage. Late in the first half Dejan Markov executed a long ball for Goodwin but again Groves was instrumental with another great tackle coming in to give the Stars possession again. Right on half time a shot by Metros Steven Grelli sped across the face of goal and found Matricciani six metres out on a tight angle able to get onto it, but a lunging Action was quick to block the shot and leave the sides locked in at nil all.

The second half saw more of the same, both sides working hard for the ball. It was encouraging to see Raiders were not leaving all the workload up to their Captain Richie Algaich, with all the youngsters in Goodwin, Acton, Markov, Brennan and Francis working like Trojans to get a much needed result in this match. The supply from midfield to the strikers just wasn’t happening for Metrostars and both Tunbridge and Matricciani were continually drifting back into the midfield to get to the ball. Sean Brennan stepped up a notch but was targeted by Metros midfield with

experienced Louis Brain having his temper tested by the tenacious youngster. With ten minutes to go both coaches David Terminello (Metros) and John Duthie (Raiders) made their changes to inject fresh legs to instigate a turnaround in the match, but the defences of both sides stood up to show their worth as the game continued to be an end to end affair.

After what was an evenly contested match, the game finished with a flurry of excitement as MetroStars pressured the Raiders for a win. It was a case of three strikes and it’s in for Metro, the run of play starting with Michael Matricciani bursting his way through the midfield to come up against Raiders keeper Dan Atkins, his close range shot being fingertipped by Atkins onto the bar. The deflection came out perfectly for Grelli to strike, Atkins again pulling off a great reflex save only to have the ball bobble out for the MetroStars Captain Karlovich to charge through with a great right foot volley to beat the agile keeper for the third time. It was an unlucky end to the match for the homeside,



Michael Acton puts in a tackle against Jackson Groves under the watchful eyes of referee Regis Queffelec  
PHOTOS: ADAM BUTLER

Monday 31st May 2010

SUPER LEAGUE										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
MetroStars	8	6	1	1	26	12	14	19		
Adelaide Blue Eagles	8	4	2	2	19	11	8	14		
Adelaide Galaxy	8	3	5	0	12	6	6	14		
Western Strikers	8	4	1	3	19	16	3	13		
Campbelltown	7	4	1	2	12	10	2	13		
Adelaide City	7	3	1	3	10	14	-4	10		
Para Hills	7	2	3	2	9	11	-2	9		
Raiders	8	1	3	4	8	11	-3	6		
Adelaide Cobras	8	1	1	6	11	26	-15	4		
Cumberland Utd	7	1	0	6	13	22	-9	3		

NEXT ROUND										
<b>Round 9</b>										
Sat 05/06/2010										
<b>Adelaide Blue Eagles vs Adelaide City</b>										
3pm Marden Sports Complex										
<b>Adelaide Cobras vs Para Hills</b>										
3pm Weigall Oval										
<b>Cumberland Utd vs Raiders</b>										
3pm Bailey Reserve										
<b>MetroStars vs Adelaide Galaxy</b>										
3pm T.K. Shutter Reserve										
<b>Western Strikers vs Campbelltown</b>										
3pm Carnegie Reserve										

PREMIER LEAGUE										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
Modbury	8	6	1	1	24	11	13	19		
Adelaide Hills	8	5	1	2	17	12	5	16		
Enfield City	8	4	2	2	17	16	1	14		
Pirates	8	3	3	2	16	12	4	12		
Croydon	8	3	3	2	11	9	2	12		
Adelaide Comets	8	3	1	4	15	16	-1	10		
Salisbury Utd	8	3	0	5	9	13	-4	9		
West Adelaide	8	3	0	5	8	21	-13	9		
White City Woodville	8	2	1	5	10	14	-4	7		
Adelaide Olympic	8	1	2	5	11	14	-3	5		

still reeling from their unfortunate bad start to the season which was not evident in this game at all as they challenged the league leaders.

A somewhat relieved Karlovich spoke to the 5RTI Radio about the game. "It was a tough match. We had the breeze in the first half but didn't utilize it like we should have. They probably were on top for the majority of the game in the middle of the park, with conditions suiting them better. But to our credit we battled on and were able to get the late winner." The win takes the league leaders further ahead to 19 points, five points clear of the Blue Eagles currently sitting in second spot.

Results from around the grounds had Adelaide Galaxy and Adelaide Blue Eagles playing out a tough 2-2 draw with goals coming from Jake Markham and Keith Caine for Galaxy and young Adam Harris and Evan Kounavelis for the Eagles. A match that saw Galaxy score early in the first half only to have Blue Eagles come back with an equalizer before the half time break. The second half saw Galaxy the more dominant of the two but not able to capitalize on this dominance. Blue Eagles scored their second to go 2-1 up but the Galaxy lads pegged that one back to keep the scores level and keep Galaxy's Coach Carl Maynard's unbeaten record intact.

Western Strikers got their match off to a good start going 3-0 up by the early part of the second half with the Lastalla brothers doing the damage, the captain Michele scoring a brace and Daniele the other. UK import Callum Flanagan put in another great performance showing that his signing has been a big part of the Strikers success this season. Michele then turned the adulation to anger, being sent off to leave his side down to ten men for the remainder of the match. The single goal scored for Cobras was care of Oliver Totani.

In the night match played out at The Padlocks, Para Hills Knights put in a convincing win over flailing Cumberland United with both goals coming from free kicks either side of the box in the first 25 minutes of the match thanks to the foot of Steve Ward. The Foxes were up against it but did manage to get back into the game for the latter of the first half with a couple of chances popping up for the Macdonald brothers but the evergreen Knights keeper Ben Moore soon put those chances to bed. The Knights

SA RESULTS										
<b>DEVINE HOMES SUPER LEAGUE</b>										
Round 7 Results										
Adelaide Galaxy 2 (J.Markham, K.Caine)										
Adelaide Blue Eagles 2 (A.Harris, E.Kounavelis) (HT 1-1)										
Best – Galaxy (C.Christophersen, J.Wright, J.Fusco) Blue Eagles (Not Provided)										
Res – Galaxy 0 Blue Eagles 2										
U19 – Galaxy 1 Blue Eagles 3										
Raiders 0										
MetroStars 1 (I.Karlovich) (HT 0-0)										
Best – Raiders (R.Alagich, S.Brennan, D.Barisic)										
MetroStars (I.Karlovich, L.Brain, A.Van Dommele)										
Res – Raiders 1 MetroStars 2										
U19 – Raiders 0 MetroStars 1										
Western Strikers 3 (M.Lastella 2, D.Lastella)										
Adelaide Cobras 1 (O.Totani) (HT 2-0)										
Best – Strikers (C.Flanagan, M.Lastella, J.Ciarla) Cobras (M.Staltari, O.Katuka, O.Totani)										
Res – Strikers 4 Cobras 1										
U19 – Strikers 2 Cobras 1										
Para Hills 2 (S.Stam 2)										
Cumberland United 0 (HT 2-0)										
Best – Para Hills (S.Tobias, A.Goulding, D.Bounds) Cumberland (S.Carmichael, N.Young, C.Larkhin)										
Res – Para Hills 2 Cumberland 1										
U19 – Para Hills 0 Cumberland 1										
Adelaide City vs Campbelltown City										
Monday 31 May - 7:30pm										
Adelaide City Park, Corner Hilltop Drive & Fosters Road, OAKDEN										

DEVINE HOMES PREMIER LEAGUE										
Adelaide Olympic 0										
Croydon 1 (C.D'Alfonso) (HT 0-0)										
Best – Olympic (A.Iandorio, M.Milosevic, T.Mullen) Croydon (M.Papacharalambous, R.Dingle, J.Christison)										
Res – Olympic 3 Croydon 1										
U19 – Olympic 0 Croydon 2										
Adelaide Hills 2 (N.Elliott, S.Bowman)										
Modbury 4 (C.Dean 2, M.Flounders, A.Solagna) (HT 1-3)										
Best – Adel Hills (L.Smith, S.Wegener, N.Rathjen) Modbury (S.Weidenbach, C.Dean, M.Flounders)										
Res – Adel Hills 0 Modbury 0										
U19 – Adel Hills 2 Modbury 4										
Enfield City 5 (M.Margaritis, M.Graham, Jo.Costa, J.Stavrides, A.Pavanello)										
West Adelaide 1 (S.Kezios) (HT 2-1)										
Best – Enfield (D.Parhas, M.Graham, J.Negrean)										
West Adel (B.Weaver, C.Robinson, M.Alexandrou)										
Res – Enfield 2 West Adel 1										
U19 – Enfield 4 West Adel 2										
Salisbury United 0										
White City Woodville 2 (A.Costaslos, S.Jovanovic) (HT 0-1)										
Best – Salisbury (S.Lindsay, J.Miller, D.McKenna)										
White City (R.Kgatie, S.Jovanovic, A.Leane)										
Res – Salisbury 2 White City 1										
U19 – Salisbury 3 White City 2										
Adelaide Comets 1 (N.Fleetwood) Pirates 1 (J.Skeffington) (HT 0-0)										
Best – Comets (R.Borgas, T.Tsiounis, N.Fleetwood)										
Pirates (M.Quinn, M.Markham, D.Carbone)										
Res – Comets 0 Pirates 2										
U19 – Comets 1 Pirates 4										

played out a strong second half but were unable to add to their goal tally, nonetheless happy to get the three points and slowly climb the ladder only 2 wins away from top spot. With the Adelaide United Youth Team players well and truly back in the squad, Coach Kenny Tosh has got his chargers firing on all pistons at just the right time. Round 8 finishes off with Adelaide City hosting the Campbelltown City Red Devils at Adelaide City Park on Monday night. Rumours are that central defender Paul Pezos has returned to play in the Black and White shirt and



# Swan pulls clear of drop zone

By Jacob Kagi

**Swan United's hopes of avoiding relegation received a massive boost with a 3-0 win at Armadale in the Football West State Premier League.**

Swan has won two straight and has picked up eight points in its last four games after beating Balcatta 1-0 last week and drawing with Perth and Western Knights in the previous rounds.

Its good form has taken it from level with bottom side Cockburn just three weeks ago and one of the relegation favourites to seven points clear of the drop.

David Perich gave United the lead on the stroke of half-time, before former Canning City star Michael Van Dongen extended that lead two minutes later.

Liam Boland put the result beyond doubt with a goal in the 77th minute, ensuring a vital win for Swan.

Armadale has lost four of its last five and hasn't won since it defeated Floreat 1-0 in round five, with it falling from early season surprises to 10th place and strong relegation candidates in just a few weeks.

Armadale and fellow strugglers Mandurah City are being protected from a true relegation fight by the ineptness of Cockburn City, which lost 4-2 to Western Knights.

Like Armadale, Cockburn hasn't won since round five and has picked up just two points in that time, with draws against Sorrento and ECU Joondalup not enough to stop it from falling four points behind 11th placed Inglewood and with a massive fight to stay in the league.

Western Knights moved up to the top of the league with its victory, but Perth would climb back to the league lead with a win or draw at Stirling Lions in the Sunday fixture.

Daniel Trim gave Knights the lead after 27 minutes, with Paul Van Dongen and Stuart Montgomery following it up with second half goals to put the result beyond doubt.

Former Perth Glory and Socceroos defender David Tarka got one back for City, before Simon Versaico restored the three-goal margin with 11 minutes remaining.

Fellow former Glory player Adrian Webster netted a consolation goal for Cockburn with two minutes remaining. Floreat Athena kept the pressure up on Western Knights and Perth with a 3-0 victory against strugglers Inglewood United.

Daniel Neiderberger put Floreat ahead after 21 minutes and Branimir Mikulic doubled that advantage four minutes before the break.



Floreat's Daniel Neiderberger scored the opener against Inglewood United. PHOTO: PETER SIMCOX

Jason Barrera scored Floreat's third in second half stoppage time, with Athena ending a streak of three games without a win.

Floreat was two points behind league leaders Western Knights ahead of the Perth game, while Inglewood lost for the second straight week. ECU Joondalup extended its unbeaten streak to seven games with a 2-1 win at Balcatta.

Joondalup controlled most of the early possession and territory and took a deserved lead when Chris Wylie scored in

the 20th minute.

Nineteen minutes later, ECU striker Jamie Watt doubled his side's lead when a cross from the right found him unmarked in the box and he was able to finish in the bottom right corner. Matty Italiano put Balcatta back in the game with a 55th minute goal, with the Premier League new boys losing for the second straight week and falling out of a finals place for the first time this season.

Sorrento climbed up to fourth ahead of the Perth and Stirling clash with a

2-1 win over Mandurah City.

Adam Hayton scored the winner from the penalty spot in the 90th minute for the Gulls, after he had earlier given it the lead just before half time. New signing Ivan Zuvela had levelled for Mandurah with a converted penalty in the 77th minute, but Hayton rescued the points for Sorrento.

Sorrento has conceded eight goals in the last three games but has still won the last two, while Mandurah remains just five points clear of the relegation zone.

# Fowler arrives in Perth



**Perth Glory's star signing Robbie Fowler has arrived in Perth to a big ovation from fans and the media.**

The Liverpool legend landed on Tuesday evening at 5.25pm from Dubai and was welcomed by a rock star reception.

Fowler said he was delighted to be in WA and was humbled by the fans reaction.

Fowler is swamped by the media as he leaves Perth airport

"It was obviously a long flight but I'm here now and I can try and concentrate on football so it's good to be here," Fowler said.

"The professionalism of all the (Glo-

ry) staff has been fantastic.

"It's a good club, a lovely place and the staff were brilliant and really instrumental in me getting here.

"The fact is that they made me feel welcome. They were always on the phone and that personal touch makes a big difference.

"It obviously brilliant being here and when you come through airports and you see the amount of people and all you guys (the media) here it's fantastic.

"Football is what I'm here for and if I can help the team in any way get further up the table than what they were last year that's good."

Perth Glory will hold a media con-

ference tomorrow with Robbie, Head Coach Dave Mitchell and club Chairman Tony Sage.



## WA LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Perth SC	11	8	1	2	26	20	6	25
2 Western Knights	11	7	2	2	29	15	14	23
3 Floreat Athena	11	6	2	3	27	14	13	20
4 Sorrento	11	5	3	3	23	23	0	18
5 Stirling Lions	11	5	2	4	16	15	1	17
6 Balcatta	11	5	1	5	21	20	1	16
7 ECU Joondalup	11	3	5	3	25	25	0	14
8 Swan United	11	3	4	4	12	15	-3	13
9 Mandurah City	11	3	2	6	19	27	-8	11
10 Armadale	11	2	4	5	13	18	-5	10
11 Inglewood United	11	3	1	7	14	26	-12	10
12 Cockburn City	11	1	3	7	14	20	-6	6

## WA RESULTS

### PREMIER DIVISION

#### First Team

Floreat Athena 3 (Neiderberger 21, Mikulic 41, Barrera 92) Inglewood United 0; Armadale 0 Swan United 3 (Perich 45, Van Dongen 47, Boland 77); Sorrento 2 (Hayton 44, 90P) Mandurah City 1 (Zuvela 77P); Western Knights 4 (Trim 27, Van Dongen 54, Montgomery 67, Versaico 79) Cockburn City 2 (Tarka 70, Webster 88); Balcatta 1 (Italiano 55) ECU Joondalup 2 (Wylie 20, Watt 39), Stirling Lions 0 Perth SC 2 (Oliveira 9, 41)

#### Reserves

Floreat Athena 4 Inglewood United 3; Armadale 1 Swan United 5; Sorrento 4 Mandurah City 0; Western Knights 4 Cockburn City 2; Balcatta 3 ECU Joondalup 1, Stirling Lions 0 Perth SC 5

#### Under 18's

Floreat Athena 0 Inglewood United 1; Armadale 2 Swan United 3; Sorrento 3 Mandurah City 1; Western Knights 2 Cockburn City 5; Balcatta 1 ECU Joondalup 5, Stirling Lions 2 Perth SC 5

### DIVISION ONE

#### First Team

Wanneroo City 3 (Orme 34, Bowman 55, McDonald 77) Queens Park 2 (Chikombe 37, Anthony 48); Fremantle Spirit 1 (Carello 34P) Bayswater City 5 (Karpeh 18, 42, 90, Gonzalez 24, McStea 57); Morley-Windmills 0 Forrestdfield United 3 (Melling 14, Hart 30, 73); Ashfield 2 (Lloyd 2, 12) Canning City 3 (Keary 36, Donnelly 45, Onyuru 56); Dianella White Eagles 2 (Mayhew 3, Kuppasamy 83) Gosnells City 5 (Pomfret 5, Rothwell 20, Walters 10, Francis 58, 76); Rockingham City 0 Bunbury Forum Force 6 (OG 8, Rodgers 12, Kavanagh 29, Quinn 30, Chappell 68, Risdon 71)

#### Reserves

Wanneroo City 3 Queens Park 1; Fremantle Spirit 2 Bayswater City 3; Morley-Windmills 3 Forrestdfield United 1; Ashfield 0 Canning City 3; Dianella White Eagles 5 Gosnells City 4; Rockingham City 0 Bunbury Forum Force 5

#### Under 18's

Wanneroo City 5 Queens Park 3; Fremantle Spirit 1 Bayswater City 2; Morley-Windmills 2 Forrestdfield United 3; Ashfield 0 Canning City 3; Dianella White Eagles 0 Gosnells City 2; Rockingham City 0 Bunbury Forum Force 4

## NEXT ROUND

### Round 12

**Sat 5 Jun 3PM ECU Joondalup v Balcatta**  
*ECU Joondalup*

**Sat 5 Jun 3PM Swan United v Armadale**  
*Swan Italian Club*

**Sat 5 Jun 3PM Cockburn City v Western Knights**  
*Dalmatinac Park*

**Sat 5 Jun 3PM Inglewood United v Floreat Athena**  
*The Clipsal Stadium*

**Sat 5 Jun 3PM Perth SC v Stirling Lions**  
*BGC Stadium - Dorrien Gardens*

**Sat 5 Jun 3PM Mandurah City v Sorrento**  
*Hyundai Stadium*

## DIVISION ONE LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Bunbury Forum Force	9	8	0	1	40	5	35	24
2 Bayswater City	9	7	0	2	33	13	20	21
3 Gosnells City	9	7	0	2	21	11	10	21
4 Wanneroo City	9	5	1	3	18	14	4	16
5 Forrestdfield United	9	5	0	4	21	17	4	15
6 Dianella White Eagles	9	4	2	3	20	18	2	14
7 Canning City	9	4	2	3	19	21	-2	14
8 Morley-Windmills	9	2	2	5	8	19	-11	8
9 Fremantle SC	9	1	4	4	12	25	-13	7
10 Rockingham City	9	2	0	7	8	26	-18	6
11 Queens Park	9	2	0	7	14	33	-19	6
12 Ashfield	9	1	1	7	19	31	-12	4





# Panthers purr on winning list again

By Russ Gibbs

Monaro Panthers got back to winning ways with a 2-1 victory over Woden Valley in the Friday night fixture at Hawker Football Centre. First-half goals from Goran Veljanovski and Justin Selkirk had given the Panthers a 2-0 lead by the interval and, despite a second half in which Woden largely dominated, capped by a thunderous goal from substitute Bensah Afiabo, Pat McCann's team were unable to grab a second goal which would have proved crucial.

There were plenty of positives to take from the match for Woden though, especially the debut of imposing English centre-back Daryll Hall who dominated the match aerially and brought some added composure to the defence alongside club captain Cameron Gordon, a partnership that is likely to get better as the season progresses.

For the Panthers the match was a much welcome return to form following their recent blip with Veljanovski breaking his goal drought and Selkirk producing a masterful display from the centre of the park.

Tuggeranong United and Cooma Tigers meanwhile battled out a 2-2 draw on a pitch that quickly resembled a mud-heap at Kambah on the weekend with the Tigers levelling matters in the 90th minute via a controversial penalty. Marcial Munoz did the honours for Cooma lashing his kick high into the roof of the net to bring the sides back on equal terms. The penalty had been awarded when Scott Barsley was brought down by Tuggeranong 'keeper Matt McDonald, who had appeared to get a touch on the ball first before the collision.

Earlier Cooma had taken the lead in the first half when Goran Josifovski opened the scoring with a tidy finish in an opening period that the Tigers had mostly dominated. United hit back in the second half with goals from Alex Weber and Mark Shields to take a 2-1 advantage before the penalty decision evened the scores which, on the balance of play, was probably a fair result.

Belconnen United finally found their goal touch at McKellar Park on Sunday evening with a convincing 5-2 victory over ANU FC. The Blue Devils took a while to find their stride on a blustery and cold day with the visitors matching them stride for stride in the opening quarter giving their support hope that a surprise result may be on the cards. However, Belconnen had far too much cutting edge for their out-gunned opposition and, after leading 2-0 at the break, ran away with the match, despite a spirited ANU FC display.

Danny Macor struck twice for Belconnen with Tai Smith and Dustin Wells also on target. Nathan Evans and Daniel Sparrow got their names on the score sheet for the students, but they were never likely to get a strong enough hold on the match to trouble the Blue Devils.

As conditions across the Nations Capital worsened Canberra Olympic and Canberra FC faced off at Hawker Football Centre on Sunday evening. Both teams had chances to win the match, which eventually ended in a 0-0 stalemate, with Adam Spaleta hitting the post for Canberra FC and Domenic Giampaolo doing likewise for Canberra Olympic. Dania Gapare and Elia Salloum both wasted one-on-one chances for their teams and Alex Castro blew a terrific



Woden Valley's new English signing, Daryll Hall. PHOTO: RUSS GIBBS



Goran Veljanovski (Panthers) celebrates his goal. PHOTO: RUSS GIBBS



Match action between the Panthers and Woden Valley. PHOTO: RUSS GIBBS

chance to win the game at the death missing-kicking when well placed in front of goal.

\*The Goulburn Strikers versus Canberra City match scheduled for Sunday afternoon at Cookbundoon was cancelled due to an unplayable pitch.

## Foxes continue their dominance of Premier League

**Runaway league leaders Belwest Foxes survived a scare from Tuggeranong United in their Round 8 clash in The Tradies Women's Premier League at a wet and wild Kambah 2 on Sunday. The Foxes trailed 1-2 t half-time before a stunning second half turnaround that saw them reverse the momentum of the fixture to such an extent that they ran out 7-2 victors.**

Playing on a quagmire of a pitch Tuggeranong responded to Tahlia Stanley's opening goal for the Foxes with a brace of strikes of their own to lead at the break. Kate Allen levelled the scores for the home team before in-form striker Julie Ibarra converted her tenth goal of the season from the penalty spot after being fouled in the area.

After a half-time roasting from Coach Pat Mills the Foxes finally clicked into gear in the second half scoring at regular intervals through Snez Veljanovska (2), Hope Wilkins (2), Cian Maciejewski, Elizabeth Pearson and Lee Dickson to ultimately run out comfortable winners and maintain their leadership of the ladder at the half-way stage of the season.

Canberra FC cemented their place in the top four with a 3-1 win over Brindabella Blues at Yarralumla. Missing their ACTAS

contingent Canberra FC were made to work very hard for the points and were indebted to a double strike from Aurelia Bullot and a single goal from Ashlea Bryant to see them over the line. Kate Brown-Beresford had, during the first half, drawn Brindabella level with a tidy finish but Canberra FC's response ensured they would be the ones celebrating the three points at the final whistle.

Reigning title holders Weston Creek entered the top four with a comprehensive 3-0 victory over Belconnen United. Striker Rachel Crittenden was the main beneficiary of some great Weston build up play bagging a hat-trick. Crittenden had opened the scoring with a goal direct from a corner before adding two more after the break.

The final scheduled match between ABU WFC and Woden Valley was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

## NEXT ROUND

### Round 8

Sat 5 Jun KO 6pm Canberra City v Tuggeranong Utd  
Hawker Football Centre

Sun 6 Jun KO 3pm ANU FC v Goulburn Strikers

O'Connor Enclosed 1

Sun 6 Jun KO 3pm Monaro Panthers v Canberra Olympic  
Riverside Stadium

Sun 6 Jun KO 3pm Canberra FC v Belconnen Utd  
Deakin Stadium (Deakin Oval)

Sun 6 Jun KO 3pm Woden Valley v Cooma Tigers  
Woden Park Enclosed

## LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Canberra FC	7	5	2	0	28	3	+25	17
2 Belconnen United	7	5	1	1	17	9	+8	16
3 Canberra Olympic	7	3	2	2	8	7	+1	11
4 Monaro Panthers	6	3	1	2	9	8	+1	10
5 Canberra City	6	3	1	2	7	8	-1	10
6 Cooma Tigers	7	2	3	2	9	9	0	9
7 Goulburn Strikers	6	2	2	2	13	8	+5	8
8 Tuggeranong United	7	1	2	4	9	24	-15	5
9 ANU FC	6	1	0	5	6	16	-10	3
10 Woden Valley	7	1	0	6	7	20	-13	3

## WPL LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Belwest Foxes	8	8	0	0	36	3	+33	24
2 Woden Valley	6	4	1	1	20	5	+15	13
3 Canberra FC	8	4	3	1	17	18	-1	15
4 Weston Creek	7	3	2	2	14	9	+5	11
5 Tuggeranong United	8	3	1	4	21	22	-1	10
6 Belconnen United	8	2	3	3	14	9	+5	9
7 ANU WFC	7	1	0	6	6	22	-16	3
8 Brindabella Blues	8	0	0	8	6	46	-40	0

## ACT RESULTS

Woden Valley 1 (Bensah Afiabo 84')  
Monaro Panthers 2 (Goran Veljanovski 15', Justin Selkirk 35')

Tuggeranong United 2 (Alex Weber 55', Mark Shields 69') Cooma Tigers 2 (Goran Josifovski 39', Marcial Munoz 90' (pen))

Belconnen United 5 (Danny Macor (2), Tai Smith, Dustin Wells, own goal)  
ANU FC 2 (Nathan Evans, Daniel Sparrow)

Goulburn Strikers v Canberra City – Match Postponed

## WPL

Played Midweek: Canberra FC 0 Belconnen United 0

Tuggeranong United 2 (Julie Ibarra (pen), Kate Allen) Belwest Foxes 7 (Snez Veljanovska (2), Hope Wilkins (2), Cian Maciejewski, Elizabeth Pearson, Lee Dickson)

Canberra FC 3 (Aurelia Bullot (2), Ashlea Bryant) Brindabella Blues 1 (Kate Brown-Beresford)

Weston Creek 3 (Rachel Crittenden (3)) Belconnen United 0

Woden Valley v ANU WFC – Match Postponed

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# FFV Men's Metropolitan League & Women's Results

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MENS METROPOLITAN LEAGUE NORTH-WEST: Heidelberg Stars 4 (M Ahmed 2 S Yusuf S Gamadi) Keon Park 3 (S Dimas T Tselios), Light Utd 1 (SA Cicek) Yarra Jets 1, Tullamarine Jets 1 (H Aksoy) Oak Park 2, Moreland Wolves 3 (S Fatini) Northern Utd 1, Altona North 1 (A Whatmore) Ascot Vale 0, Reserves: Heidelberg Stars 4 Keon Park 1, Light Utd 6 Yarra Jets 1, Tullamarine Jets 0 Oak Park 1, Moreland Wolves 3 Northern Utd 3, Altona North 0 Ascot Vale 2

MENS METROPOLITAN LEAGUE SOUTH-EAST: Endeavour Hills 1 (NJ Leimee) Parkmore 2 (A Jovanovic 2), Caulfield Grammarians 3 (T Dounias CM Saristavros G Watson) Dandenong Warriors 4 (J Yong Yan Yin T Zaire L Palmire 2), Middle Park FC 5 (M Roberts 3 M Furness C Stevenson) Ringwood City 3 (C Chronis L Van Gulik TE Frans), Old Mentonians 5 (M Watling P Mc Loone 3 K Larsen) St Kevins 1 (SA La Faudi), Reserves: Endeavour Hills 3 Parkmore 1, Caulfield Grammarians 3 Dandenong Warriors 5, Middle Park FC 2 Ringwood City 0, Old Mentonians 3 St Kevins 3

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE DIV 1: South Springvale 1 (M Batnic) Uni. of Melbourne 2 (BP Ashe N Vincent), Monbulk 1 Ballarat & District 1 (T Benoit), Brighton 3 (C Quadara M Wyszomirska 2) South Yarra 1 (L Alonzo), Reserves: South Springvale 2, Uni. of Melbourne 2, Monbulk 0 Ballarat Lady Devils 0, Brighton 1 South Yarra 1

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE DIV 2 NORTH-WEST: Western Suburbs 1 Darebin Falcons 1, North Geelong Warriors 0 FC Bulleen Lions 1 (A Beagley), Melbourne Bears 0 Cairnlea 8 (D Mutuel 4 N Cileli T Hussein S Calleja 2), Western Eagles 5 (AM Felszynski A Keszowska 3) Fawkner 0, Whittlesea Ranges FC 0 La Trobe University 5 (N Carter NE Garner 3 M Frank)

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE DIV 2 SOUTH-EAST: North Caulfield 1 (R Bach) Noble Park 5 (S O'Brien L Moya M Van Der Heyde R Kok), Mooroolbark 0 Mornington 1 (J Vanstekelenburg), Albert Park 5 (T Kiddle TL Colvin H Saur) Monash University 1 (B Narine), Berwick City 2 (E Heeger (Rault) A Ravi) Ashburton 3 (M Armitage 2), Sandringham 2 (A Evangelista) Southern Suburbs 0

WOEMSN STATE LEAGUE DIV 3 NORTH-WEST: Keilor Park 6 (D Lettieri 2 M Emond 4) Sunshine George Cross 3 (J Galea T Papaluca), Melton 0 Diamond Valley Utd 1 (TS Bowman), Kyneton District 0 Yarra Jets 4 (h browne 2), Old Carey 3 Maribymong Utd 1, Brunswick Zebras 3 (N Italiano J Todorovic K Palmer) Eltham Redbacks 0

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE DIV 3 SOUTH-EAST: Ashburton 2 Endeavour Utd 3, Seaford Utd 24 (AN Remman B McGeoch 2) East Bentleigh 0, South Melbourne 9 (S Berreck 4 D Kallianis 2 A Missikos) Beaumaris 3 (F Marek M Lee Gow 2), Box Hill Inter 4 (J Tay 2) Knox City 0

WOMENS METROPOLITAN LEAGUE NORTH-WEST: Brunswick Zebras 12 (R When 2 M van Setten BA McPherson EK Johns 4 K Palmer 3 K Alexander) Northern Roosters 0, Mitchell Rangers 5 (E Foster V McNaughton 2) Yarra Jets 2, Watsonia Heights 0 Plenty Valley Lions 1, Brunswick City 4 Melbourne Knights 0

WOMENS METROPOLITAN LEAGUE SOUTH-EAST: Kingston City 0 Endeavour Hills 0, Sandringham 0 Berwick City 15 (M Nagle A Staples 3 C Anthony T Hakimi 3 N Cosentino 2 K Soler), Skye Utd 1 Monash University 0,

WOMENS METROPOLITAN LEAGUE CENTRAL: Sandringham 3 (D Tracey N Hajnci E Badu) Elwood City 0, Sydenham Park 3 Port Melbourne 0, Albert Park 1 Monash University 1, Swinburne University WSC 2 (C Connell) Bayside Argonauts 4, Uni. of Melbourne 0 Whittlesea Zebras 3

MENS THIRDS LEAGUE DIV 1: Cleeland Utd 2 South Yarra 1, Kyneton District 4 (R Cole 2 N Allen D Herrera 2) Doveton 0, La Trobe University 1 Altona Lions 6,

MENS THIRDS LEAGUE DIV 2 NORTH-WEST: Melbourne University 2 Essendon Utd 0, Moreland City 1 Brunswick City 1, Upfield 0 Keilor Park 4,

MENS THIRDS LEAGUE DIV 2 SOUTH-EAST: Old Camberwell Grammar 2 Old Scotch 3, Boroondara Eagles 1 Bayside Argonauts 3, Central Park AC Malvern 1 South Yarra 3, Caulfield Grammarians 2 Old Melbourneians 2

MENSTHIRDSLEAGUEDIV3NORTH-WEST:Uni.ofMelbourne 2 Lalor 3, Kyneton District 3 (K Turley J Davey 2) La Trobe University 0, Hoppers Crossing 3 Northcote City 3,

MENS THIRDS LEAGUE DIV 3 SOUTH-EAST: Old Trinity

Grammarians 1 Old Haileybury 4, Melbourne University 3 Old Melbourneians 2, Central Park Rangers 3 Brandon Park 2

MENS THIRDS LEAGUE DIV 4 NORTH-WEST: Eltham Redback FC 2 Diamond Valley Utd 4, Altona City 1 Cairnlea 1, Kyneton District 3 (N Plant O Shipstone 2) Williamstown 1, Watsonia Heights 0 Brimbank Stallions 3

MENS THIRDS LEAGUE DIV 4 SOUTH-EAST: Elwood City 1 South Yarra 4, Monash University 2 Old Scotch 0,

MENS THIRDS LEAGUE DIV 5 NORTH-WEST: Kyneton District 1 (JJ Irons) Melbourne University 1, Melbourne Bears 8 Moreland Wolves 2, Uni. of Melbourne 0 Altona City 8

MENS THIRDS LEAGUE DIV 5 SOUTH-EAST: Keysborough 3 East Bentleigh 1,

MENS THIRDS LEAGUE DIVISION 6: Moreland Utd 0 Uni. of Melbourne 3, Old Scotch 3 Springvale City 2, Sandringham City 2 2 Western Eagles 0, Beaumaris 2 Brimbank Stallions 3,

MENS MASTERS NORTH-WEST: Heidelberg Utd 0 Moreland City 5, Doc Utd 2 Avondale Heights 2, Fitzroy City 2 Whittlesea Zebras 2, Banyule City 5 Whittlesea Utd 3

MENS MASTERS SOUTH-EAST: White Star Dandenong 3 Glen Waverley 2, Southern Suburbs 0 Doveton 2,

MENS MASTERS CENTRAL: Collingwood City 1 South Yarra 5, Beaumaris 2 Middle Park FC 1, Brighton 3 Juventus Old Boys 4

Oak Park	8	4	3	1	20	10	15
Altona North	8	4	3	1	18	11	15
Tullamarine Jets	8	4	2	2	16	11	14
Light Utd	8	3	1	4	14	16	10
Yarra Jets	8	2	3	3	13	16	9
Ascot Vale	8	1	2	5	6	15	5
Northern Utd	8	1	1	6	9	15	4
Keon Park	8	1	1	6	12	29	4

Mens	Metropolitan	League	North-West				Reserves		
			P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Light Utd			8	6	1	1	31	13	19
Heidelberg Stars			8	5	3	0	29	17	18
Moreland Wolves			8	4	2	2	23	15	14
Northern Utd			8	4	1	3	19	16	13
Tullamarine Jets			8	3	3	2	20	13	12
Yarra Jets			7	3	1	3	22	17	10

Ascot Vale	8	2	2	4	11	20	8
Altona North	7	2	0	5	10	22	6
Keon Park	8	0	0	8	6	34	0
Mens	Metropolitan			League		South-East	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Dandenong Warriors	7	4	2	1	14	10	14
Old Mentonians	7	3	3	1	16	10	12

Harrisfield Hurricanes	6	2	4	0	14	10	10
Caulfield Grammarians	7	2	3	2	13	13	9
Parkmore	7	3	0	4	7	9	9
Ringwood City	7	2	2	3	10	14	8
Endeavour Hills	8	1	2	5	10	17	5
St Kevins	7	1	2	4	12	20	5
Mens	Metropolitan	League	South-East	Reserves			

Middle Park FC	6	6	0	0	23	2	18
Ringwood City	7	5	1	1	17	7	16
Dandenong Warriors	7	4	1	2	21	17	13
Endeavour Hills	8	4	0	4	11	14	12
St Kevins	7	2	3	2	8	12	9
Parkmore	7	2	2	3	11	13	8
Harrisfield Hurricanes	6	2	1	3	9	8	7
Old Mentonians	7	1	2	4	13	26	5

Brighton 7 1 0 6 4 27 3 South Yarra 7 0 0 7 4 38 0

Womens	State	League	Div	Reserves					
			P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Doncaster Rovers			6	6	0	0	25	0	18
Bundoora Utd			6	5	0	1	25	3	15
Uni. of Melbourne			7	4	2	1	24	8	14
Bayswater Strikers			6	4	0	2	25	15	12
South Springvale			7	3	1	3	13	10	10
Monbulk			7	2	2	3	10	12	8
Whitehorse Utd			6	2	0	4	9	14	6
Brighton			7	1	3	3	7	19	6
Ballarat Lady Devils			7	1	1	5	5	12	4
South Yarra			7	0	1	6	3	50	1

Womens	State	League	Div	2	North-West		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Cairnlea	7	6	1	0	27	4	19
Western Eagles	7	6	0	1	30	3	18
La Trobe University	7	6	0	1	26	4	18
FC Bulleen Lions	7	4	2	1	11	3	14
Fawkner	7	3	1	3	16	15	10
North Geelong Warriors	7	3	0	4	16	9	9
Darebin Falcons	7	2	1	4	11	21	7
Western Suburbs	7	2	1	4	7	19	7
Whittlesea Ranges FC	7	0	0	7	5	29	0
Melbourne Bears	7	0	0	7	1	43	0

Womens	State	League	Div	South-East					
			P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Sandringham			7	6	1	0	20	3	19
Berwick City			7	4	0	3	23	12	12
Albert Park			7	4	0	3	20	11	12
Noble Park			7	4	0	3	18	18	12
Southern Suburbs			7	3	1	3	12	13	10
Ashburton			7	3	1	3	9	11	10
Mornington			7	3	1	3	10	13	10
Monash University			7	1	3	3	9	13	6
Mooroolbark			7	1	2	4	6	15	5
North Caulfield			7	1	1	5	8	26	4

Womens	State	League	Div	3	North-West		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Keilor Park	7	7	0	0	42	14	21
Yarra Jets	7	6	0	1	25	12	18
Brunswick Zebras	7	5	1	1	17	8	16
Diamond Valley Utd	7	3	1	3	15	12	10
Eltham Redbacks	7	3	1	3	15	14	10
Sunshine George Cross	7	3	0	4	15	15	9
Old Carey	7	3	0	4	17	23	9
Melton	7	2	1	4	8	18	7
Kyneton District	7	1	0	6	7	22	3
Maribymong Utd	7	0	0	7	4	27	0

Womens	State	League	Div	3	South-East		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Seaford Utd	7	6	1	0	46	4	19
Box Hill Inter	7	5	1	1	27	8	16
South Melbourne	7	5	1	1	33	15	16
Langwarrin	6	3	3	0	26	7	12
Croydon City Arrows	6	4	0	2	20	10	12
Knox City	7	2	1	4	13	20	7
Beaumaris	7	1	1	5	18	39	4
Endeavour Utd	6	1	0	5	16	30	3
Ashburton	7	1	0	6	12	30	3
East Bentleigh	6	1	0	5	7	55	3

Womens	Metropolitan	League		North-West				
		P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Brunswick City		7	7	0	0	69	3	21
Mitchell Rangers		7	5	1	1	20	6	16
Melbourne Knights		6	4	1	1	32	5	13
Brunswick Zebras		7	4	0	3	32	17	12
Fitzroy City		6	3	2	1	16	5	11
Plenty Valley Lions		7	3	0	4	10	28	9
Tullamarine Jets		5	2	0	3	16	19	6
Watsonia Heights		7	2	0	5	9	25	6
Yarra Jets		7	1	0	6	11	48	3
Northern Roosters		7	0	0	7	2	61	0

Womens	Metropolitan	League	South-East					
		P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Berwick City		7	7	0	0	52	6	21
Dandenong City		6	5	0	1	28	10	15
Endeavour Hills		7	4	1	2	29	6	13
Kingston City		7	3	2	2	14	13	11
Mooroolbark		6	2	2	2	10	11	8
Eltham Redbacks		6	2	2	2	7	11	8
Croydon City Arrows		6	2	1	3	12	16	7
Skye Utd		7	2	1	4	5	29	7
Sandringham		7	1	1	5	8	32	4
Monash University		7	0	0	7	2	33	0

Womens	Metropolitan	League			Central			
		P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sydenham Park		7	6	0	1	22	6	18
Sandringham		7	5	1	1	14	7	16
Whittlesea Zebras		7	4	2	1	15	5	14
Bayside Argonauts		7	4	0	3	19	13	12
Monash University		7	3	1	3	9	10	10
Port Melbourne		7	3	1	3	6	12	10
Uni. of Melbourne		7	3	0	4	11	12	9
Elwood City		7	2	0	5	8	14	6
Albert Park		7	1	2	4	3	15	5
Swinburne University WSC		7	0	1	6	6	19	1

Mens	Thirds	League	Div	1				
		P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Cleeland Utd		7	6	1	0	21	7	19
South Yarra		7	5	1	1	33	6	16
Kyneton District		7	5	1	1	20	6	16
Altona Lions		7	4	0	3	18	17	12
Marcellin Old Collegians		6	3	1	2	12	12	10
Doveton		7	2	1	4	8	13	7
La Trobe University		7	2	0	5	21	30	6
Juventus Old Boys		6	1	2	3	9	16	5
Southern Suburbs		6	0	2	4	5	26	2
Monash University		6	0	1	5	4	18	1

Mens	Thirds	League	Div	2	North-West		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Mitchell Rangers	6	4	2	0	13	2	14
Brunswick City	7	3	4	0	15	5	13
Glenroy	6	4	0	2	16	9	12
Keilor Park	7	3	2	2	19	11	11
La Trobe University	6	3	1	2	9	8	10
Melbourne University	7	2	3	2	7	5	9
Collingwood City	6	2	1	3	15	14	7
Moreland City	7	1	3	3	7	10	6
Upfield	7	1	2	4	10	19	5
Essendon Utd	7	1	0	6	6	34	3





Boys South East 15 B: North Caulfield 3 Glen Eira 0, Glen Eira East Bentleigh , Hampton 2 Beaumaris 1, Brighton 1 Brighton 0
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Boys South East 16 A: Bentleigh Greens 1 Beaumaris 3, North Caulfield 2 Bayside Knights 0, Caulfield Cobras 6 East Bentleigh 1, Hampton 0 Bentleigh Greens 2, Brighton 3 Brighton 6
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Boys South-South East 13 C: Kingston City 3 Beaumaris 3, Keysborough 5 Lyndale Utd 1, Casey Comets 8 Frankston Pines 0, Aspendale 0 Dandenong City 3, Bayside Argonauts 0 Berwick City 6, North Caulfield 0 Brighton 0
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Boys South-South East 16 B: East Bentleigh 0 Heatherton Utd 9, North Caulfield 2 Berwick City 6, Southern Stars 1 Peninsula 1, Brighton 1 Hampton 2
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Boys South 12 A: Doveton 1 Berwick City 9, Peninsula 3 Dandenong City 0, South Eastern Piranhas Bye , Mornington Dandenong Thunder
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Boys South 12 B: Endeavour Utd 0 Berwick City 2, Hampton Park Utd 4 Langwarrin 2, Peninsula 11 Baxter 0, Mornington 0 Doveton 11
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Boys South 12 C: Heatherton Utd 5 Carrum Utd 0, Keysborough 0 Casey Panthers 0, Peninsula 1 Berwick City 4, Mornington James Cook FC, Westernport 0 Berwick City 2
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Boys South 13 A: Hampton Park Utd 2 Springvale White Eagles 9, Langwarrin 4 Berwick City 2, South Eastern Piranhas 3 Dandenong City 0, Mornington 1 Doveton 3
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Boys South 13 B: Southern Stars 6 Carrum Utd 0, Endeavour Utd 5 Berwick City 1, Peninsula 1 Baxter 0, White Star Dandenong Langwarrin, Mornington 1 Casey Comets 4
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Boys South 14 A: Doveton 3 Berwick City 1, Hampton Park Utd 0 Casey Comets 4, Peninsula 0 Mornington 0, South Eastern Piranhas Bye , South Springvale 2 Dandenong Thunder 3
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Boys South 14 B: Carrum Utd 1 Berwick City 5, Keysborough 3 Doveton 1, Peninsula 4 Langwarrin 3, Seaford Utd 1 Lyndale Utd 4
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Boys South 14 C: Dandenong City 7 Casey Comets 0, Dandenong Warriors Casey Panthers , Hampton Park Utd 3 Westernport 0, Rosebud Baxter
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Boys South 15 A: Doveton 0 Berwick City 9, Endeavour Utd 6 Springvale White Eagles 1, Keysborough 3 Dandenong Thunder 1, Peninsula 3 Dandenong City 1, South Eastern Piranhas Bye
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Boys South 15 B: Casey Comets 0 Langwarrin 4, Endeavour Utd 4 Baxter 1, Peninsula 0 Carrum Utd 4, Mornington 5 Berwick City 0, James Cook FC 16 Frankston Pines 1
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Boys South 16 A: Keysborough 2 Hampton Park Utd 3, Peninsula 2 Berwick City 0, South Eastern Piranhas Bye , White Star Dandenong Langwarrin , Mornington 2 Casey Comets 1
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Boys West 12 A: Green Gully Cavaliers Brimbank Stallions, Melbourne Knights 0 St Albans Saints 0, Keilor Park 3 Ballarat Academy of Soccer 1, North Geelong Warriors 2 Altona City 2, Sydenham Park 4 Hoppers Crossing 2
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Boys West 12 B: Green Gully Cavaliers Bye , Cairnlea 1 Altona City 2, Keilor Park 1 1 Spring Hills 2, Keilor Park 2 2 Bell Park 1, Laverton Park 1 Sunshine Heights 4
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Boys West 13 A: Green Gully Cavaliers Sunshine George Cross , Melbourne Knights 9 St Albans Saints 0, Brimbank City 2 Hoppers Crossing 0, Brimbank Stallions 2 Altona City 2, Werribee City 0 Keilor Park 2
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Boys West 13 B: Green Gully Cavaliers GRFA , Cairnlea 4 Keilor Park 3, Laverton Park 0 Ballarat Academy of Soccer 4, Williamstown 1 Altona East Phoenix 2, Bye Brimbank Stallions
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Boys West 13 C: Oak Park SC Williamstown , Hoppers Crossing Westvale , North Geelong Warriors 4 Spring Hills 1, Bye Sunshine George Cross
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Boys West 14 A: Green Gully Cavaliers GRFA, Melbourne Knights 0 Ballarat Academy of Soccer 1, Cairnlea 6 Altona City 0, Keilor Park 2 Altona Magic 0, Bye Hoppers Crossing
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Boys West 14 B: Green Gully Cavaliers Sydenham Park , Cairnlea 4 Keilor Park 1, Brimbank Stallions 2 Sunshine Heights 3, Williamstown 0 St Albans Saints 0, Keilor Wolves Bye
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Boys West 14 C: Altona City 0 Satellite City Utd 2, Melton Bye , Werribee City 9 Williamstown 1, Point Cook FC Western Eagles
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Boys West 15 A: Altona City 7 Ballarat Academy of Soccer 2, Brimbank City 4 Sunshine George Cross 2, Geelong 0 GRFA 1, Keilor Park 4 Green Gully Cavaliers 2
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Boys West 15 B: Green Gully Cavaliers Sunshine George Cross , Keilor Park 4 Altona City 0, Werribee City 0 Brimbank Stallions 0, Williamstown 2 Sydenham Park 0, North Lions 4 Hoppers Crossing 5
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Boys West 16 A: North Geelong Warriors 2 Sunshine George Cross 2, Green Gully Cavaliers Westgate , Melbourne Knights 2 Altona East Phoenix 2, Sydenham Park 2 Sunshine Heights 1, Werribee City 2 Keilor Park 1
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Boys West 16 B: Cairnlea 0 Keilor Park 5, Melton 2 Hoppers Crossing 1, Western Eagles 7 Satellite City Utd 1, Williamstown 1 St Albans Saints 0, Spring Hills Bye
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Girls Central - North East - East 18: Diamond Valley Utd 8 Knox City 0, Bye Boroondara Eagles , Richmond 8 Whitehorse Utd 1 3, Whitehorse Utd 2 Yarra Jets
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Girls North West 12 A: Box Hill Inter 3 Boroondara Eagles 0, Whitehorse Utd 1 Bundoora Utd 0, Banyule City FC Bulleen Lions , Ashburton 3 St Albans Saints 0, Richmond 0 Richmond 6
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Girls North West 12 B: Keilor Park 0 Green Gully Cavaliers 1, Watsonia Heights 0 Essendon Royals 1, Diamond Valley Utd 2 Alphington 3, Pascoe Vale 17 Brunswick Zebras 0, Eltham Redback FC Kensington JGSC
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Girls South East - South 18 : Bye East Bentleigh 2 , Hampton Park Utd 1 East Bentleigh 1 0, Langwarrin 0 Casey Comets 2, Brighton 1 Springvale White Eagles 2
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Girls South East 12 A: Bye Brighton , Sandringham 3 Berwick City 0, Sherbrooke Rangers 1 Ringwood City 1, North Caulfield 1 Peninsula 3
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Girls South East 12 B: Glen Waverley 1 Casey Panthers 4, Aspendale Bye , Bayside Knights 0 Sandringham 10, Brighton 0 Waverley Victory 4
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Girls West - North West - North 18: Gisborne Ballarat & District , Epping City 5 Keilor Park 0, Hoppers Crossing 0 Brunswick Zebras 6, Sunbury Utd Keilor Wolves , Pascoe Vale 5 Bundoora Utd 1
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Girls Central - North East - East 13-14 A: Boroondara Eagles 2 FC Clifton Hill 0, Boroondara Eagles 0 Oakleigh Cannons 0, Ashburton 3 Croydon
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City Arrows 1, FC Bulleen Lions 6 Malvern City 0
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Girls Central - North East - East 13-14 B: FC Bulleen Lions 3 Knox City 0, Box Hill Inter 3 South Melbourne 0, Glen Waverley 0 Sherbrooke Rangers 2, Ashburton 2 0 Kensington JGSC 3, Boroondara Eagles 1 Croydon City Arrows 0, Eltham Redback FC Ashburton 1
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Girls Central - North East - East 15-16 A: Mooroolbark 2 Boroondara Eagles 5, Knox City 3 Kensington JGSC 0, Croydon City Arrows 6 Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Whitehorse Utd 3 Ashburton 0, Doncaster Rovers 3 FC Bulleen Lions 3
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Girls Central - North East - East 15-16 B: Nunawading City FC Alphington , South Melbourne 13 Ashburton 0, Box Hill Inter Boroondara Eagles 1 , Oakleigh Cannons 0 Boroondara Eagles 2 3
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Girls Central - North East - East 15-16 C: Greenvale Utd 2 Watsonia Heights 2, FC Bulleen Lions 8 DOC Utd 1, Glen Waverley 1 Brandon Park 0, Oakleigh Cannons 0 Waverley Victory 1
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Girls Central - North East - East 15-16 D: Eastern Lions 0 Eltham Redback FC 2, South Yarra 0 Boronia 2, Yarra Jets Croydon City Arrows
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Girls South East - South 13-14 A: North Caulfield Bye , Hampton 0 Berwick City 5, Sandringham 3 Brighton 0, Carrum Utd 3 Peninsula 0
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Girls South East - South 13-14 B: Carrum Utd 0 Sandringham 2 2, Sandringham 1 9 Hampton 0, North Caulfield 4 Mornington 1, Southern Stars 0 Casey Panthers 0, Brighton 2 1 Brighton 1 1
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Girls South East - South 13-14 C: Endeavour Utd 0 Berwick City 3, Seaford Utd 0 Mornington 0, Rosebud 1 East Bentleigh 2, Oakleigh Cannons 6 Yarra Jets 0, Langwarrin 2 Glen Eira 2, White Star Dandenong Sandringham
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Girls South East - South 15-16 A: Carrum Utd 2 Peninsula 2, North Caulfield 5 Glen Eira 1, Southern Stars 2 Baxter 4, Mornington 2 Dandenong City 1, Sandringham Bye
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Girls South East - South 15-16 B: Bayside Knights 1 Casey Panthers 4, Brighton Sandringham , Mornington 1 Noble Park 4, North Caulfield 0 Carrum Utd 10, Langwarrin 3 Peninsula 2
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Girls West - North West - North 13-14 A: Banyule City Green Gully Cavaliers , Keilor Park 2 St Albans Saints 0, Watsonia Heights 2 Essendon Royals 1, Sunbury Utd 0 Brunswick Zebras 9, Pascoe Vale 1 Bundoora Utd 8
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Girls West - North West - North 13-14 B: Sydenham Park 0 Bundoora Utd 8, Keilor Park 5 Brunswick Zebras 0, Williamstown 0 Yarra Jets 4, Diamond Valley Utd 5 Cairnlea 0
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Girls West - North West - North 15-16 A: Sydenham Park Bye , Bundoora Utd Werribee City , Banyule City Keilor Park , Whittlesea Ranges FC 1 Heidelberg Utd 0, Essendon Royals 7 Brunswick Zebras 1
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Girls West - North West - North 15-16 B: Whittlesea Utd Bye , Brimbank City 0 Spring Hills 4, Sydenham Park 14 Essendon Royals 0, Brunswick Zebras 10 Bacchus Marsh 0, Watsonia Heights 7 North City Lions 0, Keilor Park 1 Cairnlea 1, Altona City 0 Brimbank Stallions 6
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Central SSF Boys 11 Joeys (Sun): South Melbourne 3 Yarraville Glory 2, Port Melbourne Yarra Jets , Malvern City 3 FC Clifton Hill 6, Melbourne Lions Alphington , Melbourne Athletic JFC South Yarra
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Central SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos (Sun) : South Melbourne 13 South Melbourne 20, Port Melbourne 5 Malvern City 0, FC Clifton Hill 3 FC Demons 0, South Yarra 5 Yarra Jets 2
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East SSF Boys 11 Joeys (Sat): Montrose Knox City , Glen Waverley 2 3 Glen Waverley 1 5, Glen Waverley 3 3 Boronia 5, Mooroolbark 3 Croydon City Arrows 1
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East SSF Boys 11 Joeys (Sun) : Croydon City Arrows 4 Montrose 1, Knox Utd 1 Oakleigh Cannons 3 , Knox Utd 2 3 Eastern Lions 1, Ringwood City Oakleigh Cannons 1 , Oakleigh Cannons 2 6 Waverley Victory 1
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East SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos (Sat): Glen Waverley 1 3 Mooroolbark 2 2, Croydon City Arrows 2 Eastern Lions 5, Glen Waverley 2 Mooroolbark 1
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East SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos (Sun) : Oakleigh Cannons 2 3 Brandon Park 0, Glen Waverley 1 Knox Utd 6, Cardinia Utd 0 Oakleigh Cannons 15, Ringwood City Eastern Lions
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East SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos/Joeys (Sun) : Oakleigh Cannons 1 0 Monash City 0, Oakleigh Cannons 2 0 Waverley Wanderers 2, Waverley Victory 5 Cardinia Utd 0
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North East SSF Boys 11 Joeys (Sun): Manningham 1 2 Manningham 2 2, Ashburton 3 3 Ashburton 2 3, Eltham North 2 Eltham North 3 , Wonga Park Wizards JFC DOC Utd , Ashburton 1 1 Eltham North 1 1
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North East SSF Boys 11 Joeys Lime (Sat): Riversdale 8 Box Hill Inter 4, Ashburton 1 1 Doncaster Rovers 13, Nunawading City FC 1 FC Bulleen Lions 1, Doncaster Rovers 2 2 Ashburton 2 1, Whitehorse Utd 4 Boroondara Eagles 3
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North East SSF Boys 11 Joeys Red (Sat): Boroondara Eagles 1 FC Bulleen Lions 2 , Ashburton 1 1 Doncaster Rovers 1 , Whitehorse Utd 1 8 Ashburton 2 3, Whitehorse Utd 2 0 Box Hill Inter 10, Boroondara Eagles 2 1 FC Bulleen Lions 1 3
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North East SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos (Sun): FC Bulleen Lions 2 0 FC Bulleen Lions 1 5, Ashburton 3 0 Ashburton 2 5, Eltham North 1 1 Manningham 1, Eltham North 2 1 Ashburton 1 1, Nunawading City FC 13 Nunawading City FC 2 8
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North East-Central SSF Boys 11 Joeys (Sat): Richmond 2 1 FC Bulleen Lions 3, Ashburton 1 Whitehorse Utd 2 6, Riversdale 2 FC Demons 2, Boroondara Eagles 6 Box Hill Inter 1, Whitehorse Utd 1 0 Richmond 1 5, Bye Doncaster Rovers
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North East-Central SSF Boys 11 Kang Blue (Sat): Epping City 3 Ashburton 0, Richmond 2 0 Elwood City 1, Doncaster Rovers Bye , FC Bulleen Lions 1 0 Richmond 10 0, FC Bulleen Lions 2 4 Boroondara Eagles 0
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North East-Central SSF Boys 11 Kang Yellow (Sat): Ashburton 1 Riversdale 5, Bye Doncaster Rovers , Richmond 2 0 Box Hill Inter 2, FC Bulleen Lions 1 2 Richmond 1 0, FC Bulleen Lions 2 2 Whitehorse Utd 4
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North East-East SSF Girls 11 Pink (Sun): Oakleigh Cannons 5 Ringwood City 0, Ashburton 2 1 Knox Utd 3, Ashburton 1 1 DOC Utd 6, Boroondara Eagles 7 Box Hill Inter 0
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North East-East SSF Girls 11 Purple (Sun): Ashburton 1 Mooroolbark , Ringwood City Croydon City Arrows , Boroondara Eagles 1 Ashburton 2 2
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North SSF Boys 11 Joeys (Sun): Whittlesea Ranges FC 1 Bundoora Utd 1 5, Diamond Valley Utd 1 Northcote City 9, Lalor Utd 5 Mitchell Rangers 0, Watsonia Heights 2 Banyule City 1
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North SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos (Sun): Whittlesea Ranges 1 Bundoora Utd 1 , Epping City 0 Preston Lions 1 4, Lalor 0 Northcote City 5, Preston Lions 2 0
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Banyule City 5, Bundoora Utd 2 Whittlesea Ranges 2
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North West SSF Boys 11 Joeys Orange (Sun) : Brunswick City 5 Sunbury Utd 3, Fawkner 0 Essendon Royals 1, Gisborne Pascoe Vale 1 , Pascoe Vale 2 0 Flemington Eagles 7, Meadow Park Eagles Oak Park SC
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North West SSF Boys 11 Joeys Purple (Sun) : Meadow Park Eagles 1 Pascoe Vale 3, Moreland City 0 Brunswick City 3, North City Lions 1 Essendon Royals 7, Hume City Brunswick Zebras , Light Utd 1 Flemington Eagles 1
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North West SSF Boys 11 Joeys Red (Sun): Light Utd 2 Hume City 0, Moreland Utd Essendon Royals , North City Lions 3 Sunbury Utd 3, Upfield 1 Pascoe Vale 1
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North West SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos Purple (Sun): Essendon Royals 5 Moreland Utd 0, Moreland City 0 Brunswick City 5, North City Lions Avondale Heights , Brunswick Zebras 2 0 Brunswick Zebras 1 3, Melbourne Phoenix 3 Flemington Eagles 0
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North West SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos Red (Sun): Essendon Royals 1 Pascoe Vale , Fawkner 2 Keilor Wolves 3, Light Utd 0 Gisborne 0, Moreland City 7 Essendon Royals 2 0, Brunswick Zebras 1 Upfield 2
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North West-North-Central SSF Girls 11 (Sun): South Melbourne 1 1 South Melbourne 2 3, Banyule City 1 South Yarra , Banyule City 2 Bye , Greenvale Utd 4 Yarra Jets 1, Essendon Royals 5 Kensington JGSC 7, Fawkner 0 FC Clifton Hill 1
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North-Central SSF Boys 11 Joeys/Kangaroos (Sun) : FC Clifton Hill 1 South Melbourne 3, Bye Watsonia Heights , Bundoora Utd 2 Yarra Jets , Whittlesea Ranges FC 1 Sporting Whittlesea 6, Bundoora Utd 1 Banyule City
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South East SSF Boys 11 Joeys Blue (Sat): Sandringham City 3 Dandenong Warriors 0, Bayside Argonauts Glen Eira , Brighton 1 3 Brighton 2 4, Beaumaris 1 3 East Bentleigh 2, Beaumaris 2 1 Hampton 1 6, Hampton 2 1 Brighton 3 4
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South East SSF Boys 11 Joeys Green (Sat): Sandringham City 2 1 East Bentleigh 3, Brighton 1 1 Brighton 2 2, Bayside Argonauts Glen Eira 2, Sandringham City 1 2 Glen Eira 1 4, Beaumaris 1 2 Brighton 3 1, Beaumaris 2 2 Hampton 2
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South East SSF Boys 11 Joeys Green (Sun) : Bentleigh Greens 8 Sandringham City 1, North Caulfield 4 Sandringham City 3, Bye North Caulfield , Southern Suburbs 1 Aspendale 2, Brighton 4 Brighton 1
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South East SSF Boys 11 Joeys Orange (Sun): Bye Sandringham City , Brighton 1 East Bentleigh 4, Aspendale 3 Beaumaris 3, Bayside Knights 5 North Caulfield 2 0
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South East SSF Boys 11 Joeys Yellow (Sun): North Caulfield 1 3 Sandringham City 1 , Caulfield Cobras Brighton , Hampton 2 East Bentleigh 2, Bayside Knights 2 North Caulfield 2 0
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South East SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos (Sat): Brighton 1 3 Sandringham City 1 1, Sandringham City 2 2 Doveton 7, Brighton 2 5 Glen Eira 0
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South East SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos (Sun) : North Caulfield 1 0 Sandringham City 1 2, Hampton Sandringham City 2 , Bayside Knights North Caulfield 2 , Aspendale 3 Bentleigh Greens 1
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South East-South SSF Girls 11 Joeys Pink (Sun): East Bentleigh 3 North Caulfield 2 1, Sandringham 1 Mornington , Bayside Argonauts North Caulfield 1 , Sandringham 2 2 Hampton 2, Brighton 2 6 Brighton 1 1
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South East-Sth SSF Girls 11 Kang Purple (Sun): Beaumaris 2 Sandringham 1 5, Mornington 1 Sandringham 2 1, Brighton 5 North Caulfield 0
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South SSF Boys 11 Joeys Blue (Sun): Carrum Utd 1 Langwarrin 6, Doveton 0 Berwick City 2, Endeavour Utd 9 Casey Comets 4, Noble Park 3 Peninsula 2 0, Peninsula 1 Casey Panthers , Mornington 0 Hampton Park Utd 5
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South SSF Boys 11 Joeys Lime (Sun) : Dandenong Thunder Berwick City 1 , Hampton Park Utd Berwick City 2 , Langwarrin 1 Heatherton Utd 3, South Springvale 3 Casey Panthers 2, Springvale White Eagles 5 Peninsula 0
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South SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos Blue (Sun): Southern Stars 1 Berwick City 2, Peninsula 5 Casey Panthers 0, South Eastern Piranhas 6 Carrum Utd 1, Springvale White Eagles 6 Langwarrin 1, Dandenong Thunder Mornington
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South SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos Lime (Sun) : Casey Comets 2 South Eastern Piranhas 1, Endeavour Utd Hampton Park Utd , Keysborough 4 Berwick City 5, Langwarrin 0 Carrum Utd 5, South Springvale 6 Mornington 1
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South SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos Joeys (Sun) : Doveton 2 Berwick City 1 4, South Springvale 0 Peninsula 5, Mornington 1 4 Langwarrin 0, Mornington 2 0 Casey Comets 5, James Cook FC 1 Berwick City 2 2
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West SSF Boys 11 Joeys Green (Sun) : Cairnlea 2 1 Cairnlea 1 2, Altona East Phoenix 1 Point Cook FC 3, Hoppers Crossing 0 Spring Hills 2 0, Melton 4 Spring Hills 1 1, Bacchus Marsh 4 Green Gully Cavaliers 10
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West SSF Boys 11 Joeys Yellow (Sun) : Cairnlea 4 Green Gully Cavaliers 0, Brimbank City 0 Point Cook FC 0, Sydenham Park 5 St Albans Saints 0, Werribee City 4 Keilor Park 1, Barnstoneworth Utd Satellite City Utd
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West SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos Orange (Sun) : Green Gully Cavaliers Sunshine George Cross , Melbourne Knights 4 St Albans Saints 6, Hoppers Crossing 3 Sunshine Heights 0, Laverton Park Sydenham Park , Werribee City 5 Altona Magic 1
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West SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos Yellow (Sun): Green Gully Cavaliers 1 Green Gully Cavaliers 2 , Altona East Phoenix 4 Ballarat Academy of Soccer 2, Brimbank Stallions 0 Sunshine Heights 3, Keilor Park 1 Altona City 1, Spring Hills 3 Sunshine George Cross 2, Barnstoneworth Utd Williamstown
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West SSF Boys 11 Kangaroos/Joeys (Sun): Green Gully Cavaliers 1 Williamstown , Green Gully Cavaliers 2 0 Spring Hills 0, Sunshine George Cross 5 Brimbank Stallions 1, Melbourne Knights 7 Altona City 2 2, Altona City 1 3 Keilor Park 0, Cairnlea 4 Point Cook FC 0
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----- Boys 18 Blue P W D L F A PT GRFA 7 5 1 1 32 10 16 North Caulfield 6 5 0 1 20 8 15 Melbourne Phoenix 6 4 0 2 15 15 12 Malvern City 8 4 0 4 22 24 12 Whittlesea Zebras 6 3 2 1 18 14 11 Brunswick Zebras 7 3 0 4 17 17 9 Bentleigh Greens 5 3 0 2 10 11 9 Dandenong City 5 2 0 3 17 20 6 Fawkner 5 0 1 4 5 19 1 Springvale White Eagles 7 0 0 7 5 23 0
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Boys 18 Central - Northern P W D L F A PT South Melbourne 6 5 1 0 37 5 16 Sunshine George Cross 5 3 1 1 14 10 10 Whittlesea Ranges FC 5 3 1 1 9 6 10
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Carlton Youth 6 2 1 3 18 19 7 Northern Utd 5 2 1 2 9 10 7 Pascoe Vale 5 2 1 2 8 11 7 Heidelberg Stars 3 0 0 3 4 13 0 Port Melbourne 4 0 0 4 5 17 0
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Boys 18 Eastern- North-East P W D L F A PT Sherbrooke Rangers 7 7 0 0 40 9 21 Doncaster Rovers 6 5 0 1 25 10 15 Manningham 6 4 0 2 28 9 12 Glen Waverley 6 4 0 2 16 16 12 Ashburton 6 1 1 4 10 33 4 DOC Utd 6 1 0 5 6 12 3 Whitehorse Utd 5 1 0 4 9 27 3 Ringwood City 6 0 1 5 8 26 1
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Boys 18 Purple P W D L F A PT FC Bulleen Lions 7 5 2 0 21 9 17 South Melbourne 6 5 0 1 14 7 9 Richmond 6 4 0 2 18 6 12 Dandenong Thunder 7 3 2 2 11 8 11 Sunshine George Cross 6 3 1 2 14 7 10 Green Gully Cavaliers 6 2 0 4 11 10 6 Heidelberg Utd 6 2 1 3 10 15 4 Altona Magic 6 1 1 4 7 16 4 Oakleigh Cannons 6 0 3 3 9 18 3 Northcote City 6 0 2 4 11 30 2
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Boys 18 South-East - Eastern P W D L F A PT Southern Suburbs 7 6 0 1 27 5 18 Oakleigh Cannons 7 5 2 0 30 8 17 Riversdale 7 4 2 1 25 9 14 Brighton 6 4 1 2 17 12 8 Bentleigh Greens 7 3 1 2 18 10 8 Eastern Lions 6 3 1 2 19 13 10 FC Bulleen Lions 7 2 0 5 13 17 6 East Bentleigh 7 2 0 5 14 36 6 Manningham 7 1 1 5 12 16 4 Bayside Argonauts 7 0 0 7 2 53 0
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Boys 18 Southern P W D L F A PT Frankston Pines 7 6 1 0 27 5 19 South Eastern Piranhas 7 5 1 1 30 6 16 Casey Comets 7 5 0 2 15 8 15 Bayside Knights 7 4 1 2 30 14 13 Berwick City 7 4 0 3 16 14 12 Endeavour Utd 7 3 1 3 22 12 10 Springvale City 7 3 0 4 19 23 9 Brandon Park 7 2 0 5 16 25 6 Peninsula 7 1 0 6 23 35 3 Baxter 7 0 0 7 7 63 0
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Boys 18 Western - North-West P W D L F A PT Ballarat & District 6 5 0 1 28 5 15 Essendon Royals 5 5 0 0 20 7 15 Keilor Park 6 4 1 1 32 6 13 Moreland City 7 4 0 3 13 14 12 Altona City 7 3 1 3 26 11 11 Brimbank Stallions 6 3 0 3 11 18 9 Brunswick City 7 2 0 5 14 24 6 Werribee City 6 1 1 4 20 18 4 Moreland Utd 6 2 1 3 12 11 4 Bacchus Marsh 6 0 0 6 1 63 0
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Boys Central - North 12 A P W D L F A PT Richmond 7 7 0 0 28 0 21 South Melbourne 7 6 0 1 31 5 18 Bundoora Utd 7 5 0 2 17 3 15 South Yarra 7 4 1 2 32 12 13 Watsonia Heights 7 3 1 3 11 11 10 Preston Lions 7 3 1 3 10 13 10 FC Birrarung 7 1 2 4 14 33 5 Malvern City 7 1 1 5 12 28 4 Epping City 7 1 1 5 11 32 4 Lalor Utd 7 0 1 6 5 34 1
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Boys Central - North 12 B P W D L F A PT Richmond 2 7 6 0 1 47 4 18 Northcote City 6 5 1 0 27 5 16 Whittlesea Ranges FC 6 4 2 0 19 24 12 Lalor 7 4 0 2 31 25 12 Richmond 1 5 2 1 2 13 8 7 Whittlesea Zebras 6 2 1 3 12 21 7 Heidelberg Stars 6 2 0 4 10 14 6 Epping City 6 1 1 4 4 22 4 Yarraville Glory 5 1 0 4 4 18 3 Alphington 6 0 0 6 3 39 0
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Boys Central - North 12 C P W D L F A PT Richmond 6 6 0 0 34 4 18 Yarra Jets 1 6 6 0 0 28 3 18 Bundoora Utd 5 4 0 1 11 8 12 Sporting Whittlesea 6 3 1 2 20 15 10 Melbourne Lions 6 3 1
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28







# Matildas set for Asia Cup glory

The Westfield Matildas have produced a defensive master class at the Chengdu Sports Center to overcome Japan 1-nil in the semi-final of the AFC Women’s Asian Cup.

The result means Australia have not only won through to the 2010 AFC Women’s Asian Cup Final but have qualified first through Asia for the FIFA Women’s World Cup 2011 in Germany.

A 46th minute goal from striker Katie Gill was the difference between the two sides with Australia’s defense proving the difference in the intense encounter.

The match started with Japan putting the Westfield Matildas under enormous pressure and in the 3rd minute Japan struck the post off a corner with the follow up shot flying inches over the Australian goal.

Australia found their way into the match in the 7th minute when a Collette McCallum through-ball found Sarah Walsh who streaked ahead of her marker and her well-awaited cross landing in front of Heather Garriock and a pair of Japan defenders.

In a tangle of feet Garriock almost one a penalty only to have the ball swiftly under Japan’s control again.

On 15 minutes a Japan handball saw McCallum produce a typically dangerous free-kick which forced Japan’s goalkeeper Kaihori Ayumi to punch the ball only as far as fullback Lauren Colthorpe who knocked the ball back into the mix with Japan able to scramble the ball clear.

Japan, who took the lions share of possession in the first half, looked dangerous from set pieces and in a half that saw them take over 15 corners and free-kicks in Australia’s half were only denied a goal by the infallible Westfield Matildas’ defense and goalkeeping.

On 35 minutes Japan had the best opportunity of the first half.

Following some intricate passing on the left and a chipped cross, Kim Carroll only just managed to put off the striker who placed her effort just wide of Melissa Barbieri’s goal.

Australia continued to soak up the pressure with the front three of Gill, Garriock and Walsh barely able to link up.

With five minutes to go in the half left-back Elise Kellond-Knight took on her player and played a neat ball to Garriock who with time to look up fed an inch perfect cross to Walsh whose controlled shot flew just wide of the target.

On 45 minutes Servet Uzunlar did brilliantly to stop a certain goal when she tackled Japan’s Nagasato Yuki who was millimeters from unleashing a shot from inside the six-yard-box.

A moment later and Australia pounced when a penetrating free-kick from Uzunlar found Gill who flicked into a bustling Japan box.

With Japan’s ‘keeper Ayumi unable to deal with the bouncing ball and Walsh rushing on the ball popped out and Clare Polkinghorne’s presence in the area forced a poor clearance from Japan’s Kumagai Saki who kicked the ball out of Ayumi’s hands and to Gill who took one touch before placing the ball over the heads of a pack of players for the Westfield Matildas to take a 1-nil lead into the half-time break.

Australia looked a lot stronger in the second

half retaining more possession and creating more attacking opportunities with the game opening up a lot more than the first half.

A Colthorpe cross saw Garriock knock the ball into Gill’s path but her shot sailed just high of the Japan goal.

Soon after Sarah Walsh was given a through ball that saw the super quick striker blitz past her defender but her cross could not find Gill who was waiting at the back post.

Japan continued to look extremely dangerous with the ball and were given another chance from a set-piece when Garriock was wrongly penalised for attacking the ball when the Japan striker ducked her head into a challenge.

The resulting free-kick produced an excellent save from Westfield Matildas captain Melissa Barbieri who’s presence grew more and more immense as the game went on.

Teigen Allen came on for Walsh and immediately imposed herself on the game linking up well on the right side of Australia’s attack.

Australia had another scare when Japan’s Miyama Aya blasted a shot at the Australian goal which Barbieri saved comfortably.

The Westfield Matildas continued to soak up an enormous amount of pressure from the Japan side and reshuffled their defense when Aivi Luik came on for Colthorpe.

Kim Carroll and Servet Uzunlar were colossal in Australia’s defensive center while Collette McCallum, Sally Shipard and Clare Polkinghorne looked indefatigable in mid-field.

Sam Kerr came on late in the gaming and with three minutes of added time the Westfield Matildas were on the ropes until a clearance found Kerr free on the halfway line and her mazing run amongst a host of Japanese defenders played in Player-of-the-Match, Clare Polkinghorne, who, after an 80-meter sprint, belted a shot into Ayumi’s side netting.

Japan ran out of time to get an equalizer and the full-time whistle came with the Westfield Matildas celebrating an historic win that sees them qualify for the FIFA Women’s World Cup for the fifth consecutive time and sees them reach the final of the AFC Women’s Asian Cup for the second time in three attempts.

“I think our defensive effort and our concentration was outstanding and I can’t praise my players high enough for that effort,” said Westfield Matildas Head Coach Tom Sermanni.

“It was a tense encounter and I thought Japan played extremely well but we kept in there and kept battling and got the win which is a huge result.

“Our second job, and the one that was probably most important to the team, is done - we’ve qualified for the World Cup.

“We’ve got to our second Asian Cup Final in three attempts now and with the belief and confidence in this team I think we can come away with it.”

The Westfield Matildas were set to play in the 2010 AFC Women’s Asian Cup Final overnight against Korea.

GW photographer Paul Lau brings you a first-hand look of the Matildas camp whilst on assignment in China with the squad.



Captain Melissa Barbieri exchanges pennants with Japan's Sawa Homare, before getting down to business. PHOTO: PAUL LAU



Kate Gill strikes home the goal that assures another Asia Cup final appearance. PHOTO: PAUL LAU



The Matildas celebrate Kate Gill's goal. PHOTO: PAUL LAU



The Matildas are put through their paces at training. PHOTO: PAUL LAU

## Semi Final

Australia 1 (Kate Gill 45'+1)  
Japan 0  
Thursday, 27 May 2010  
Chengdu Sports Center Stadium, Chengdu, China  
Referee: Pannipar Kamnu-eng

Australia starting line-up:  
1.Melissa BARBIERI (gk) (c),  
4.Clare POLKINGHORNE,  
5.Lauren COLTHORPE (27.Aivi LUIK 82'), 6.Servet UZUNLAR,  
7.Heather GARRIOCK, 12. Kate GILL, 14.Collette MCCALLUM (22.Sam KERR 90'), 15.Sally SHIPARD, 16.Elise KELLOND-KNIGHT, 23.Kim Carroll, 9.Sarah WALSH (31.Teigen ALLEN 61')

Substitutes not used: 18.Lydia WILLIAMS (GK), 3.Karla REUTER, 10.Kylie LEDBROOK, 13.Thea SLATYER (c), 17.Kyah SIMON, 19.Leena KHAMIS, 24.Tameka BUTT, 25.Casey DUMONT (gk)

Yellow cards: Collette MCCALLUM 37', Elise KELLOND-KNIGHT 50'

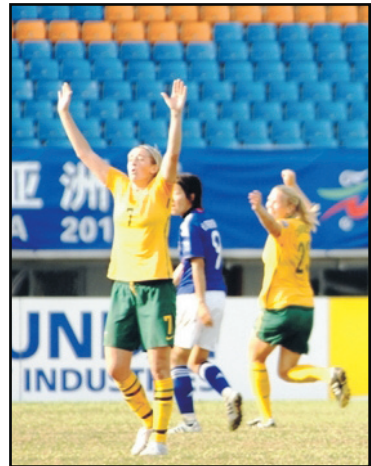
Red cards: Nil

Japan starting line-up:  
12.Kaihori Ayumi (gk),  
2.Iwashimizu Azusa, 3.Yano Kyoko (Megumi 88'),  
4.Kumagai Saki, 5.Kinga Yukari, 6.Sameshima Aya, 8.Miyama Aya, 9.Nagasato Yuki, 10.Sawa Homare, 13.Yamaguchi Mami (Ando KOZUE 35'), 16.Sudo Akiko (Utsugi Rumi 59')

Yellow cards: Nil

Red cards: Nil

Photographer Paul Lau brings GW readers a first hand look at the Matildas' Asia Cup campaign whilst on assignment in China with the squad.



Heather Garriock is relieved after the final whistle is blown. PHOTO: PAUL LAU



Matilda coach Tom Sermanni orders the girls to knuckle down at training. PHOTO: PAUL LAU



# Sandy sneaks a peep of the peak

By Niki Cook

Round 8 of the Victorian Women's Premier League produced few surprises, with two of the weekend's three matches resulting in victories to the higher placed teams, and the third seeing Casey Comets overtake Bendigo Vipers on the ladder. Box Hill Inter and Sandringham are equal on points at the top of the ladder, but both will be overtaken by Ashburton, if it defeats Heidelberg United at Olympic Village on Monday night.

Casey Comets recorded a valuable victory over Bendigo Vipers at Epsom Huntly Recreation Reserve on Saturday, which keeps it in the hunt for a place in the finals. Both teams had experienced mixed seasons going into the game, with Casey having a 2-3 win-loss ratio, and Bendigo having won two, drawn one and lost two, so a win was vital for both teams. The match was decided in the first half, with all three goals coming before the interval. Caroline McEvoy and Lisa Cloke scored the two goals for Casey, with Louise McColl on target for the home side. Neither side was able to add to its tally after the break, and so Casey ensured that the long journey home was a happy one, having got the three points in the bag. The win, the Comets third of the season, sees it leapfrog Bendigo on the ladder, and it now sits fifth on the ladder with nine points, level with fourth-placed Heidelberg. Bendigo is a place further back, with seven points.

Another game that was decided in the first half took place at BT Connor Reserve on Sunday, when Preston Lions hosted Box Hill Inter. The reigning premier triumphed by three goals to one, with all four goals coming in the first half. Katrina Smith, Deanna Niceski and Louisa Bisby scored for the visitor, with Melissa Rodriguez Lorenzo the goalscorer for Preston. The victory was Inter's fifth of the season, and it remains as the only team in the competition yet to suffer a defeat. It ends the weekend back at the top of the ladder, but will be overtaken once again should Ashburton defeat Heidelberg on Monday night. Defeat for Preston, its fourth of the year, means that it remains seventh on the ladder, with five points.

Sandringham ended Altona City's mini run, which had seen the WPL newcomer pick up four points in two matches, with a 2-0 victory at HC Kim Reserve on Sunday. It was the second consecutive 2-0 victory for Sandringham, which defeated South Melbourne by the same margin on Monday night. In contrast to the round's other games, the goals came in the second half in this encounter, with the sides remaining locked at nil-nil at half time. Paige Dodds and Stephanie Catley both found the back of the net for Sandringham, with Altona unable to find anything in reply. Sandringham continues to keep pace at the top of the ladder, level on points with Box Hill Inter, and second overall. Altona remains eighth, with four



Hannah Whittaker (Sandringham) blasts the ball out of defence. Altona City players are Alexandra Miller (left) and Christine Fonua. PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON



Michelle Parton (Sandringham) goes down as Lauren Humphreys (Altona City) tidies up for Altona City- PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON

## WPL RESULTS

**Bendigo Vipers 1**  
(L McColl)  
**Casey Comets 2**  
(C McEvoy L Cloke)

**Preston Lions 1**  
(MB Rodriguez Lorenzo)  
**Box Hill Inter 3**  
(K Smith D Niceski L Bisby)

**Altona City 0**  
**Sandringham 2**  
(P Dodds S Catley)

Reserves: BASL 1 Casey Comets 2, Preston Lions 1 Box Hill Inter 5, Altona City 1 Sandringham 2

## WPL NEXT ROUND

**Box Hill Inter v Casey Comets**  
Wembley Park  
Fri 4 Jun KO 8:30PM

**Preston Lions v Heidelberg Utd**  
BT Connor Reserve  
Sat 5 Jun KO 1:00PM

**Bendigo Vipers v Altona City**  
Moama Sports Club  
Sat 5 Jun KO 3:00PM

**South Melbourne v Ashburton**  
McIvor Reserve  
Sun 6 Jun KO 1:00PM

**Bye v Sandringham**

## WPL LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Box Hill Inter	7	5	2	0	17	3	17
Sandringham	8	5	2	1	13	7	17
Ashburton	6	5	0	1	20	8	15
Heidelberg Utd	5	3	0	2	11	6	9
Casey Comets	6	3	0	3	9	9	9
Bendigo Vipers	6	2	1	3	5	8	7
Preston Lions	7	1	2	4	7	17	5
Altona City	7	1	1	5	3	14	4
South Melbourne	6	0	0	6	2	15	0

## WPL RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ashburton	6	5	1	0	26	5	16
Sandringham	8	5	1	2	14	11	16
Heidelberg Utd	5	3	2	0	9	4	11
Box Hill Inter	7	3	1	3	14	10	10
Casey Comets	6	3	1	2	9	6	10
BASL	6	3	0	3	9	17	9
South Melbourne	6	2	1	3	10	9	7
Altona City	7	1	0	6	8	20	3
Preston Lions	7	0	1	6	4	21	1

points.  
Round 9 commences on Friday night, with old rivals Box Hill Inter and Casey Comets meeting at Wembley Park. Two matches take place on Saturday, with Bendigo Vipers hosting Altona City in a match that has been relocated to Moama Sports Club, and Preston Lions taking on Heidelberg United at BT Connor Reserve. The final match of the round takes place at McIvor Reserve on Sunday, when South Melbourne meets Ashburton. Sandringham has the bye.

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By Aritro Abedin

Round Eight of the State League Division 1 saw both Bulleen and Whittlesea drop valuable points to allow Springvale to move to the top of the table by one point after their impressive away win over Pascoe Vale.

Fawkner Blues 1 vs North Geelong Warriors 1

Fawkner's hopes of bouncing back from last week's upset defeat against Malvern were dealt a blow as the visiting North Geelong held on for a one-all draw in an exciting encounter at CB Smith Reserve. Fawkner dominated the first half but it was the Warriors who scored first with a defensive blunder allowing Daniel Dragicevic to score with a 20th minute header. The Blues then equalized 15 minutes later through a Jason Dolevski strike that would have left them confident of a win going into the half time break. However it was not to be and the Blues will be kicking themselves for not securing the points after hitting the bar three times in the last five minutes. Coach Ken Murphy was happy with the performance but disappointed with the eventual result. 'It was a pretty high standard game for division one, it was end to end in the second half. But a draw really doesn't do anyone any good, we really wanted a win today.'

FC Clifton Hill 1 vs Malvern City 2

Saturday afternoon's encounter at Kevin Bartlett Reserve saw Malvern City carry over their good form from their superb win over Fawkner last week to take the points against Clifton Hill in a match that was marred by terrible refereeing. City were all over the Clifton Hill defence in the first half and a goal against the run of play from Steve Manceski gave the home side an undeserved advantage at half time. However Malvern came out all guns firing in the second and ran over them in the end, as Alan Pratt ran onto a through ball to equalize in the 60th minute before player-coach Pat Liapis popped up with a header in the 82nd to secure the points for his side. Though delighted with the result, Liapis was less thrilled with the refereeing in the match. 'We knew we were a fitter team than them, and I told the boys in the half time break to go out there in the second half and play our game but every time we got some momentum going the referee kept blowing his whistle for a free kick that wasn't there, or a yellow card, and it was just really frustrating.'

Langwarrin 3 vs Bulleen Lions 2

It was a superb game of football at Lawton Park on Saturday that saw Gus McLeod's Langwarrin edge out Bulleen with an accomplished display of passing football. Bulleen's occasional defensive frailties have cost them this season, and this game was no different. Sharpshooter Matt Durand took advantage of a defensive lapse and smashed it past the goalkeeper to give his side the lead but Bulleen's pacy striker Anthony Ramzy got one back for the visitors with his neat finish soon after. But it was all Langwarrin for the rest of the half as Durand completed his double and Caleb Nicholls capped off a superb first half performance with a penalty to send his side into the break 3-1 ahead. The second half got off to a promising start for Bulleen as an awful free-kick decision early on allowed Bulleen's talismanic midfielder Anthony Magnacca to score with a deflected set-piece but Lanwarrin held firm in defence for the rest of the contest to take three richly deserved points. Gus McLeod was under no illusions as to what an enormous coup this result represents. 'It's a great three points, and we're delighted after that result from last Monday night's game. We know they're a good side and they're going to be right up there at the end of the season, so to get three points against them is fantastic.'



The Saints are off to a flyer after Tomi Razov scores within the first minute of play against the Zebras.  
PHOTO: STEVE STAREK



The Saints go marching in nice and early against Whittlesea Zebras. PHOTO: STEVE STAREK



Tomi Razov and Brian Cheeson surround their Zebras opponent in a congested tussle. PHOTO: STEVE STAREK

Whittlesea Zebras 1 vs St.Albans 1

The Zebras slipped to second place after managing only a point against a St.Albans side that outplayed them for large parts of the game. The contest got off to an amazing start as St.Albans opened the scoring within 55 seconds of the opening whistle, Tomi Razov latching onto a good early cross to add to his tally for the season. The Zebras pulled one back in 25th minute as star striker Simon Tolli found himself unmarked in the box and

made no mistake with the finish. However that was the home side's only sniff of the game with St.Albans dominating possession from that point onwards, passing the ball fluently and carving out several excellent opportunities to score. 'We're very disappointed with the result,' lamented Saints coach Kruni Razov. 'It was our best performance of the season, and we knocked it around beautifully in the second half and had three or four really good chances to score. It's really disappointing not to win, especially after

all the draws we've had.' To complete the round, the Springvale White Eagles continue to announce themselves as legitimate title challengers with 2-1 win over Pascoe Vale that took them to the top of the table. Luca Santili notched up yet another goal for Pacoe Vale, but responses from Dushan Nikolic and Zoran Vukas handed Springvale the three points. Meanwhile Preston and Western Suburbs fought out a goalless draw at Ralph Reserve on Sunday.

SL1 RESULTS
<b>Fawkn<span>er</span> Blues 1</b> (J Dolevski) <b>North Geelong Warriors 1</b> (D Dragicevic)
<b>FC Clifton Hill 1</b> (S Manceski) <b>Malvern City 2</b> (P Liapis A Pratt)
<b>Langwarrin 3</b> (M Durand 2 C Nicholes) <b>FC Bulleen Lions 2</b> (A Magnacca A Ramzy)
<b>Pascoe Vale 1</b> (L Santilli) <b>Springvale White Eagles 2</b> (D Nikolic Z Vukas)
<b>Whittlesea Zebras 1</b> (S Tolli) <b>St Albans Saints 1</b> (T Razov)
<b>Western Suburbs 0</b> <b>Preston Lions 0</b>
Under 21s: Fawkn <span>er</span> Blues 0 North Geelong Warriors 4, FC Clifton Hill 1 Malvern City 1, Langwar- rin 1 FC Bulleen Lions 0, Pascoe Vale 0 Springvale White Eagles 2, Western Suburbs 2 Preston Lions 1, Whittlesea Zebras 1 St Albans Saints 0

SL1 NEXT ROUND
<b>Round 10</b> <b>North Geelong Warriors v FC Clifton Hill</b> <i>Elcho Park</i> <i>Fri 4 Jun KO 8:30PM</i>
<b>Malvern City v Langwarrin</b> <i>Kingston Heath Soccer Complex</i> <i>Sat 5 Jun KO 3:00PM</i>
<b>Preston Lions v Fawkn<span>er</span> Blues</b> <i>BT Connor Reserve</i> <i>Sun 6 Jun KO 3:00PM</i>
<b>Springvale White Eagles v St Albans Saints</b> <i>White Eagles Stadium</i> <i>Sun 6 Jun KO 3:00PM</i>
<b>Western Suburbs v Whittlesea Zebras</b> <i>Ralph Reserve</i> <i>Sun 6 Jun KO 3:00PM</i>
<b>FC Bulleen Lions v Pascoe Vale</b> <i>Veneto Social Club</i> <i>Mon 7 Jun KO 8:30PM</i>

SL1 LADDER							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Springvale White Eagles	8	5	2	1	17	9	17
Whittlesea Zebras	8	5	1	2	14	8	16
FC Bulleen Lions	8	4	2	2	17	6	14
Langwarrin	8	4	1	3	17	15	13
Western Suburbs	8	3	3	2	11	10	12
Fawkner Blues	8	3	3	2	10	11	12
North Geelong Warriors	7	2	4	1	10	6	10
Pascoe Vale	8	3	1	4	9	13	10
St Albans Saints	8	2	6	0	17	13	9
Malvern City	7	3	0	4	7	13	9
FC Clifton Hill	8	1	0	7	8	17	3
Preston Lions	8	0	1	7	4	20	1

SL1 U21 LADDER							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Bulleen Lions	8	5	2	1	19	7	17
North Geelong Warriors	7	5	2	0	14	3	17
Langwarrin	8	5	1	2	13	8	16
Springvale White Eagles	8	4	1	3	13	11	13
Western Suburbs	8	4	1	3	16	18	13
Whittlesea Zebras	8	3	3	2	12	10	12
St Albans Saints	8	4	1	3	17	12	10
Pascoe Vale	8	3	0	5	16	16	9
Malvern City	7	2	2	3	12	16	8
Fawkner Blues	8	1	2	5	4	15	5
FC Clifton Hill	8	1	2	5	7	19	5
Preston Lions	8	1	1	6	11	19	4











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## Round 5

# PREMIERSHIP



# Stars shine on a full moon night!

By Adam Hussein

### Mickleham 5 vs. North Melb 5

The opening match of the night was a tale of two halves, North Melbourne minus coach Milton Sakkos, manager Gary Liakourreas & Futsalroo Fernando De Moraes started at a blistering pace with Jason Barrientos brother of Jonathan & Alinejad scoring two early doubles to lead 4-0. Mickleham had star performers Ryan Filipovic & Damir Marusic arrive late, but they changed the game immediately. A late consolation goal in the first half started a second half fight back.

Micklham piled on the pressure against the V-LEAGUE Juggernaut. Alex Petrovski (MickFC) received a red card for dangerous play but it only stemmed the tirade at Di-noosh Rasoulzadeh's (NMFC) goal. Mickleham scored four amazing goals to pinch the lead with seconds to go. The final stages of the game were frantic. North earned a corner 5-4 down with 4 seconds to go. Alinejad broke Mickleham hearts with a 5-5 equalizer. Both teams were left to rue missing players that could've made the difference but it was a tantalizing affair regardless.

### Metropolitan 8 vs. Albert Park 3

Metropolitans' emperor Alija Redzepovic was back in town and so was brother Dino as they outplayed & outclassed Albert Park. It seems that the brothers are on the scoresheet every week and they had another 4 goals between them complimented by three to Hurricane Husmir Ikanovic. Zoran Matic (APFC) was left ruing missed chances as his Albert Park side went down 4-1 at half time. Brendan Chen had a steady performance in goals for Albert Park, but it was at the other end of the stick were Cem Bicer Metropolitans second choice keeper had all the answers and was superb in goals. Hard to believe he is the second choice after that performance.

Jared Hailemelkut & Bojan Laic (APFC) debutants found it tough, Dejan Dragic and Leo Papageorgiou offered little going forward. The only attacking option was Shayan Rashidi who scored three consolation goals. Metropolitan march on towards the title after this comprehensive victory, Albert Park find themselves in familiar relegation territory.

### Fitzroy FC 3 vs. Brimbank 1

After a hot and cold opening to the night it was always going to be interesting to watch powerful Brimbank take on table toppers Fitzroy FC. Both sides started timidly waiting at the half court with very little movement off the ball as the game commenced at a snails pace. Fitzroy made several mistakes that went unpunished, until Kablar (BFC) nipped in and scored at the near post. Leigh Minopolous (FFC) turned it on and scored a spectacular solo goal to rescue Fitzroy and equalize just before half time.

Brimbank frustrated a young and timid Fitzroy but lacked the firepower and cutting edge to score. Alija Karic (BFC) missed an open goal hitting the outside of the post be-



FC Carlton scores its first win of the season over a disappointing Prahran



5 a piece Nth Melbourne get out of jail as Mickleham lick their wounds



FC Essendon's Stiker Alexander sizes up Pascoe Vale's defence

fore Minopolous controlled on the chest and rolled the Brimbank defender for his second. Fitzroy pulled off a set piece they'd worked on for hours at training for their third, Hussein took the corner, Alor dummied and Brenno finished coolly. Positives were few and far between for both sides; Fitzroy's fifth victory sees them first with 15 points,

Brimbank drop into relegation territory in 9th on 4 points.

### FC Essendon 5 vs. Pascoe Vale 5

(Match of the round [www.futsaloz.tv](http://www.futsaloz.tv)) Champions Pascoe Vale were favourites to beat 2009 champions FC Essendon in this titanic tussle between V-League greats but

this was far from a one-sided affair. This match had everything from the first whistle. The young & exuberant Pascoe Vale looked to run Essendon ragged with two early goals but the old timers stood firm. Essendon talisman Alexander "The Great" Stevanovic led the line superbly scoring a hatrick and marshalling his troops in what was a fantastic team performance. Essendon got their noses in front 3-2 at the break with quiet achiever Lubomir Erakovic starring.

Simsek and Co. (The Pascoe Vale core) had their feathers ruffled and launched into an all out tirade on Zoran Subic's goal. Marcus Barbosa Junior & Irzad Spijodic scored vital goals to put Pascoe Vale in front with not long to go. Essendon equalized in dramatic fashion and then had Ivan Stevanovic sent off for a second yellow card with a minute to go. The final frantic minute saw end to end action with Simsek narrowly missing and Essendon over committing. Both sides missed glaring last minute chances under huge pressure as the froth exploded into a remarkable aftermath. The second stunning 5-5 draw of the night, the champions stumble again in what's been a tumultuous start to the season for them, very similar to how they started last season's remarkable campaign.

### Hume 5 vs. Ashburton 2

State league champions Hume took to the court hoping to get back to winning ways after last weeks loss to North Melbourne. Ashburton's remarkable victory over Pascoe Vale a fortnight ago looks to be the only highlight of their campaign after capitulating to Prahran last week. Hume had goalkeeper Jesse Goodwin in fine form as he grows into a fine futsal goal keeper. Muhammad Tankir was solid throughout however he picked up two yellows and will miss next week. Akal Abdullatif struggled to score for the green machine and Paul Vidic (AFC coach) was left seething as several missed chances. Dimitri Vitoulkas nabbed a goal but his persistence to hit the lines found little reward.

A half fit Luciano Bessa did well, and Chris Viper Vitoulkas after a long lay off is getting better every week but still looked a shot under par. Mehmet Parlak and Muhammad Narik scored for Hume to put Ashburton to the sword, 1-1 at half time the game finished 5-2 with Hume winning comfortably. Remarkably Hume was without Nedjet Sahin who will return next week, just in time to take on a rejuvenated FC Carlton.

### FC Prahran 4 vs. FC Carlton 6

Inconsistent Prahran lived up to their name-sake losing to bottom of the table FC Carlton, albeit was a rejuvenated FC Carlton side under new management. It was remarkable given Prahran had beat North Melbourne a fortnight ago and Ashburton just a week earlier! Prahran were caught off guard with

PHOTOS BY  
Franco Lucchetti, Nick Chip-pas, Theo Mechanikos

## LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Fitzroy FC	5	5	0	0	26	13	13	15
2 Metropolitan FC	5	3	1	1	44	29	15	10
3 Nth Melbourne FC	5	3	1	1	29	15	14	10
4 Pascoe Vale FC	5	3	1	1	29	18	11	10
5 FC Essendon	5	2	2	1	21	19	2	8
6 FC Prahran	5	2	1	2	29	26	3	7
7 Ashburton FC	5	2	0	3	23	25	-2	6
8 Hume FC	5	2	0	3	19	23	-4	6
9 Brimbank FC	5	1	1	3	21	26	-5	4
10 Mickleham FC	5	1	1	3	22	32	-10	4
11 Albert Park FC	5	1	0	4	18	2	-7	3
12 FC Carlton	5	1	0	4	18	48	-30	3

## Round 5 Results May 26

- 6:30 Mickleham FC v Nth Melbourne FC 5 - 5
- 7:15 Metropolitan FC v Albert Park FC 8 - 3
- 8:00 Fitzroy FC v Brimbank FC 3 - 1
- 8:45 FC Essendon v Pascoe Vale FC 5 - 5
- 9:30 Hume FC v Ashburton FC 5 - 2
- 10:15 FC Prahran v FC Carlton 4 - 6

## Round 6 Clashes June 2

- 6:30 Fitzroy FC v FC Essendon
- 7:15 Nth Melbourne FC v Albert Park FC
- 8:00 Metropolitan FC v Brimbank FC
- 8:45 FC Prahran v Pascoe Vale FC
- 9:30 Hume FC v FC Carlton
- 10:15 Mickleham FC v Ashburton FC

## Top Scorers

- 1.A.Redzepovic MFC 13 goals
- 2.V.Mazurskiy BFC 10 goals
- 3.E.Simsek PVFC 10 goals
- 4.L.Minopoulos FFC 10 goals
- 5.A.Stevanovic FCE 10 goals

goalkeeper Dima Shakhnov caught unaware at times, and magical Maxim Avram largely quiet throughout. The game was filled with controversy as Haider Noor scored a near double for helpless Prahran before storming out of the stadium

The night belonged to Carlton; they had conceded a whopping 44 goals in 4 games. They were 4-2 up at half time and really had to earn the three points. Junior Brazilian coach Joao De Silva was in fine form on debut with two goals and multiple assists. Serar Issa did the dog work for Carlton up and down the court, debutant keeper Alex Pavlovic made multiple saves, original Carlton members Iman Arjojman, Majid Alipour and Arash Mohammadi were all terrific but it was a seasoned V-League campaigner, Super Savva Pattikis, coolly and calmly slotting four goals past Shakhnov that stole the show. He was at his best to seal Carlton's first three points of the V-League and breathe life to a side treading deep water.



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GREEN GULLY



1

RICHMOND EAGLES



2

Match Details:

**Green Gully:**  
N.Roganovic, S.Burton, M.Medjedovic, D.Jones, R.Ollerton(N.Robinson), J.Fleming, G.Wales, B.Fisher(M. Sanders), G.Hockless(J.Hayne), J.Munoz, A.Vargas.

**Green Gully: 1**  
**Goals:** S.Burton '80  
**Yellow Cards:** G.Hockless, G.Wales

**Richmond Eagles:**  
S.Gal, E.Karahan, M.Ferrante, D.Tsiaras, J.Krncevic, D.Visevic, D.Scullion, A.Kovacic, M.Catalano, T.Milardovic, S.Topalovic.

**Richmond Eagles: 2**  
**Goals:** J.Krncevic '7, S.Topalovic '21  
**Yellow Cards:** T.Milardovic

**Man of the Match:**  
Steven Burton (Green Gully)

**Crowd:** 500

# Penalty Farce at Gully

By Markian Jaworsky

In farcical scenes at Green Gully Reserve, Steven Burton all but equalised against the Richmond Eagles in the 14th minute, after an early 7th minute Jesse Krncevic goal had given Richmond a one nil lead.

However, the equaliser was not recognised by any of the 3 match officials. After Gully’s Gary Wales was wrestled in the Richmond penalty area, Steven Burton lined up to take the resultant penalty kick.

By way of video replay, Steven Burton clearly places his spot kick to the left of Richmond goalkeeper Stjepan Gal and into the back of the net. Video replay shows the referee about to award the goal, but when the ball bounced back of the advertising board, he ran to assistant referee. The Assistant Referee should have been in a position closer to the goal in behind the goal line for penalty kick, but stayed out on the sideline with an obscure view. The ball had simply gone under the back of the net and rebounded off the back advertising board, made all the more likely due to the 24 hours of rain that Green Gully Reserve had absorbed overnight.

Gully players had actually assumed the goal was awarded and walked back to the halfway line to kick off. Whilst Richmond simply

put the ball on the ground for a goal kick and played on.

Understandably it was almost impossible to concentrate on a match, once you had just been denied such an obvious clear cut goal, the players must have been pinching themselves hoping that what they were seeing was all just a bad dream. Yet, it became a nightmare, Richmond further punished Green Gully by scoring a second goal just five minutes after the spotkick.

A video replay of the penalty kick and interview by player Steven Burton can be viewed on YouTube; <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRyexrDVYrE>

Once Gully had regrouped, they finished the half strongly, and ironically the better chances fell for Steven Burton. In the second half, Gully did not give up. Technical Director Ian Dobson urged his players to forget the penalty incident and go for goals, as there was nothing to lose. Determined not to be denied, eventually Steven Burton got his goal, popping up in the 80th minute to head in goal for the Cavaliers, scoring his fourth goal of the season, and unofficially his fifth goal of the season.

Speaking in an interview after match, to be aired in full on Channel 31 (NOW ON DIGITAL 44)



Easgles' Tomi Milardovic tries to keep a tabs on his Gully oponent.  
PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

Saturday June 5, 2010, 10:30am, Steven Burton was asked about his penalty kick; “Yeah, well obviously I think the referee might be the better person to explain... It’s clear... I turn around to celebrate and run back for the kick off, and then next thing I know the Richmond players are

carrying on down the left wing...” In the Under 21’s, Green Gully Cavaliers defeated Richmond Eagles by 2 goals to 0, moving to 7th position on the VPL U21 Standings.



Richmond’s Steven Topalovic smashes home the winner against Green Gully moments after controversey gripped the match. PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS



1

0

**Match Details:**  
  
**Dandenong Thunder:**  
  
**Webster, S., Starosta, B, Osman,L., Sherbon, L, Rexhepi, S., Wilford, A., Davidson, R.( Stergiopoulos, M. 79'), Bright, J., Ibraimi, I. ( Avdulai, A. 75'), Kellaway, G., Bulloch, S.**  
  
**Goalscorer: Ibraimi 50'**  
  
**Bookings: Davidson (Y), Webster (Y), Sherbon (Y)**  
  
**Hume City:**  
  
**Acevski, L, Dilizia, F, Behich, A.( Sumbul, T. 54'), Pir, S., Erdogan, I., Opazo, A., Cardozo, R.( Vlahos, A. 54'), Thompson, R. ( Riccobene, P. 46'), Petrevski, Z., Baser, T., Bosevski, M.**  
  
**Bookings: Cardozo (Y); Petrevski (Y)**  
  
**Man of the Match :Stuart Webster**

# Thunder Locks Out Hume

By George Stogiannou

**A revitalized Dandenong Thunder scored a crucial 1-0 home win against third placed Hume City in a physical encounter at an empty George Andrews reserve on Saturday afternoon.**

This was always going to be more than just another league match for the Thunder fans who gathered behind the wire mesh boundary fence at the Southern end of the ground to watch the game. Feeling aggrieved at the recent FFV penalties locking them out of two home matches and docking the team three premiership points, they eagerly watched to see if the club's recent signings could lift the struggling side in their debut match.

Although the visitors Hume were well ahead of Thunder in the league standings, both sides entered Saturday's clash in very similar recent form, with just two wins apiece from their last seven matches.

Thunder played with a lone striker and concentrated on keeping the game tight in the middle and at the back. In a first half of few clear-cut chances, Hume looked the more dangerous team going forward where they had more numbers in attack.

However the visitors were thankful the referee turned down a strong penalty appeal from the home team in the 20th minute when one of the three debutantes, right midfielder Geoffrey Kellaway went to ground under a challenge in the box just as he was about to shoot with just the keeper to beat.

For Hume, Richard Cardozo had the best chance of the first half when his shot forced a fine save by Thunder keeper Stuart Webster. Former Thunder player Alfonso Opazo flashed a header wide of the goal before a good chance at the other end fell to another Thunder debutante, right back Ben Starosta who fired his volley well wide of the target just be-

fore the break.

Hume lost key midfielder Ross Thompson to injury at the break, forcing a reshuffle in the middle of the park for the visitors. This may have unsettled the team but it was some sloppiness in defence which almost gifted Thunder the lead early in the second half. The third of Thunder debutantes, midfielder Luke Sherbon pounced on a turnover of possession, bursting through with just keeper Lupce Acevski to beat. Sherbon however decided to try and round Acevski rather than shoot past him, and the Hume keeper managed to stop him.

However Acevski was soon picking the ball out of his net, when some more indecisive Hume defence allowed Kellaway to cut the ball bank from the goal line on the right flank, for makeshift Thunder striker Ibraim Ibraimi to side foot home.

Hume player-coach Andy Vlahos immediately introduced himself and another sub, striker Turhan Sumbal into the match. Hume increased the tempo of its play and began to create openings in attack but strikers Sumbal and Zoran Petrevski were unable to finish several chances that came their way.

As Hume pushed forward in greater number, Thunder missed a couple of opportunities to score on the counter. At the final whistle, the Thunder players and coaching staff turned towards the southern boundary fence some 100 metres away, and clapped their cheering supporters.

Thunder coach Stuart Munro said after the game, that getting the three points "was really the be-all and end-all of the game given the position of the team. Strange for both teams having to come here with no supporters and have to try to create atmosphere from within yourselves. It was a fairly physical game. There was nothing much in the game. They've had chances and we had three one on ones. At the end of the day, I'm



Ross Thompson (Hume) launches a tackle against Shane Rexhepi (Thunder). PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON

pleased because we won the match. We brought in three new players today. We really need to focus on the next game. And keep pushing and pushing to turn our season around in the second half."

A fourth new Thunder signing, Welsh striker Jamie Reed is expected to make his debut in this Friday night's away trip to high flying Richmond Eagles.

Hume City coach Andy Vlahos com-

mented on his team's performance after the game, "The first half wasn't too bad. I thought we controlled the midfield. We just couldn't break them down up front. Second half they got the only goal, they probably deserved it. They were pressing a little bit. We came at them but we just couldn't get the equalizer. There's not enough intensity or belief at this minute... not enough will to get the ball."



Thunder fans try and get a glimpse of the action from behind the fence. PHOTO: GEORGE STOGIANNOU



Hume City keeper Lou Acevski desperate lunge stopped a certain goal by Thunder's new signing from Wales, Luke Sherbon. PHOTO: JOHN PUNSHON

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ALTONA MAGIC

6

SUNSHINE GEORGIES

0

Match Details:

Apologies but the details were not available the time of going to press.

Ed.

# Magic hit Georgies for six!

By Gordon Bennett

**Altona Magic re-ignited their season with this emphatic 6-0 win over a disjointed Sunshine George Cross side. Altona's win revives hopes of escaping relegation, while the Georgies have to start worrying about another relegation battle. Coach Andy O'Dell informed the players of his resignation following the harrowing loss that ended his 3 years coaching spell at the club.**

The Georgies began the game the better of the two sides and should have been a goal in front after 4 minutes. Barry Devlin headed a long throw-in to Shaun Romein who passed to the unmarked Ben Cogger at the far post. Cogger some how managed to push the ball wide from 2 metres out.

Altona made the Cross pay for this miss when they took the lead after 9 minutes. A defence splitting pass fro Matthew Theodore found Koce Delev who shot from 19 metres went under a diving Martin John. Sunshine lifted their game and had the home team on the back foot forcing several desperate saves.

The Georgies wasted a golden opportunity to draw level after 39 minutes when defender David Calleja blasted well over the bar from close range. Altona steadied and took a 2-0 lead just before the break when Mar-

tin John spilled a Pece Cergovski shot allowing new West Australian signing John Thomely an easy tap in. The Magic sealed the match 7 minutes into the second half when Theodore once again found Thomely who easily placed his shot into the net. George Papadopolous almost scored against his former club forcing Martin John into a great save.

Sunshine kept attacking but poor finishing from close range made life easy for Altona keeper Tomislav Tomich. New Magic recruit Goran Talevski made an immediate impact after coming on as a substitute scoring the goal of the night. His long looping shot flashed past Martin John from 20 metres for goal number 4.

After 71 minutes Koce Delev made it 5-0 and at the other end Georgies' Barry Devlin saw his shot hit the post before the Magic's defence cleared the danger.

Delev grabbed his hat-trick on the stroke of full time with another killer break by Altona Magic. The final goal was a replica of all Altona's goals on the evening.

The home team were at ease repelling Sunshine's attacks throughout the night. They broke with speed to easily slice through the butter soft Sunshine George Cross defence to record their best win of the season.



Tex Apostolikas slides in for the challenge.  
PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS



Sunshine's Tex Apostolikas tries to get his cross in.  
PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS



Sunshine's Fidell Richards tries to out pace his Magic opponent.  
PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS

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1



2

Match Details:

Northcote City: C.Theodoridis-Petropoulos, H.D'Agostino, A.Chiappetta, G.Papadopoulos (c) (E.Souares 72'), H.Kinigopoulos (J.Kalifatidis 72'), N.Curtis, N.Tzoulis (J.Voulgaris 66'), B.Norton, A.Jankovski, M.McGough, T.Rixon.

Scorers: T.Rixon 76'

Yellow cards: T.Rixon 44'

J.Voulgaris 78'

Red cards: None

Oakleigh Cannons: G.McMaster, J.Cumming, J.Fitzgerald, S.Drakos (c), B.Damianos (B.Obradovic 90'), J.Karpeh, C.Watson, M.Curcija (Y.Yusuf 76'), A.Drakos, N.Kalmar (L.Palinic 86'), S.Webster.

Scorers: B.Damianos 59'

J.Karpeh 69'

Yellow cards:A.Drakos 44'

C.Watson 57' S.Webster 89'

Red cards: None

Man of the Match: J.Karpeh

Venue: John Cain Memorial Park

Crowd: 550

# City push Cannons in derby

By Tony Persoglia

**Oakleigh Cannons confirmed its status as the team to beat in 2010 with victory over a fast-finishing Northcote City at John Cain Memorial Park. In a match which had a spiteful edge to it all afternoon, the Cannons appeared set for a comfortable win with two goals early in the second half, but were forced to earn all three points by a desperate City who were relentless in their attempts to pinch an equaliser in the final quarter of an hour.**

The first half produced some entertaining football, the home team rising to the challenge of its more fancied rivals. However, the Cannons created the first serious opportunity in the 12th minute with a counter attacking play down the right hand side resulting in a Jerry Karpeh drive that should have hit the target. Six minutes later, the hosts could have claimed an all-important lead when Trent Rixon was allowed space, his right-foot drive slamming directly into Griffin McMaster's bread basket. Mark McGough was almost rewarded after some enterprising play in the 23rd minute, his shot however, only troubled the side netting.

The end-to-end nature of the contest was typified in sixty seconds late in the first half. Oakleigh drove a hole through the City midfield, allowing Karpeh to run onto a great ball, and a brilliant first touch allowed him enough time to take his shot which went just wide of both Theodoridis and the left post. From the resulting goal kick, City proceeded to return the favour with some great movement, Nixon provided with a great opportunity, only to blast his shot over the bar.

However, despite some great football, the first half will be remembered for two incidents which turned the heat up on an engaging contest. A late Nixon tackle a minute before the half left Stelios Dra-

kos sprawled on the grandstand wing, and players from both teams charged into the contest to form a melee normally reserved for that other brand of football Melburnians dearly love. The verbals continued as the half-time whistle was blown, with more physical exchanges between officials and players as the teams met in the player's race.

With a highly charged atmosphere, the second-half began with an air of anticipation, but the Cannons returned from the interval much sharper, taking two chances which illustrated their class at this level. Bill Damianos seized first, taking a neat chance after Cameron Watson set him up in the 59th minute. Ten minutes later, Jerry Karpeh doubled the Cannons lead scoring the goal he had threatened all afternoon, lobbing the keeper with a calm finish.

At this point, Northcote could have been forgiven for dropping their heads, but as they have done all season, they illustrated a never-say-die attitude and hit back in the 76th minute, Rixon pouncing on a loose ball in the box to give the home fans a hint of a comeback. They almost got it barely minutes from time when substitute James Kalifatidis shot wide from an excellently worked move. If that wasn't enough, the home team could have felt aggrieved for not winning a penalty in added time, McMaster appearing to bring down Nixon in the box. As the referee waved away the protests, so to did Northcote's chances, and Oakleigh welcomed the final whistle relieved winners.

The Cannons victory takes them to 27 points and cements their lead at the top of the table, a couple of points clear of Richmond who have a game in hand. Northcote currently sit a point away from a finals spot, with a game in hand over fifth placed Sunshine George Cross. Oakleigh return home on Monday night against an inconsistent Green Gully. Northcote City will host South Melbourne in what is an away fixture for them at John Cain Memorial Park on Sunday.



Jerry Karpeh's goal keeps the Oakleigh Cannons two points clear at the top of the standings PHOTO: PETER PSARROS



Trent Rixon gets the consolation goal as Northcote piled on the pressure in the latter stages. PHOTO: PETER PSARROS



Bill Damianos turns away after scoring the opening goal of the match, much to the delight of the traveling Oakleigh Cannons fans. PHOTO: PETER PSARROS





HEIDELBERG UNITED



3

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS



1

Match details:

**Heidelberg United:** Paul Miller, George Slefendorfas, Sayeedreza Hossaini (Dennis Allilavic 53'), Josip Kotic, Luke Byles, Craig Elvin, Steve Martin, Osagie Ederaro, Saso Alexovski (Les Doumbalis 89'), Steve Tilovski, Tony Laverder (Junior Melo 61')

**Goals:** Saso Alexovski 2', 50', George Slefendorfas 88'

**Melbourne Knights:** Ryan Filipovic, Anthony Bran, Ben Surey, Daniel Rocco (Liam Cannell 37'), Josip Magdic (Anthony Colosimo 80'), Kevin Townson, Adrian Zahra, Jean Dubois, Danny Tiatto, Damien Gleize (Jacob Colosimo 76'), Sebastian Mattei

**Goals:** Kevin Townson 52'

# Bergers off the bottom!

By Karlo Jelincic

Heidelberg United have come out on top in the relegation battle against the Melbourne Knights at the Olympic Village, finally lifting themselves off the bottom of the ladder following a hard fought 3-1 victory.

The match was a tighter contest than the score would suggest, as it proved to be a fast paced and entertaining game for the small crowd. In the end it was two defensive mistakes from Knights defender Ben Surrey that pushed Heidelberg over the line.

Heidelberg took an early lead on the 2nd minute from a set piece. A free kick on the edge of the area saw the ball sent into the goalmouth where Saso Alexovski headed the ball home for the opener.

Another close call soon after saw Heidelberg hit a cracking shot from distance which was parried away by Knights keeper Sebastian Mattei.

The Knights had their first chance of the match on the 10th minute, a pin-point cross into the box was met by in-coming striker Kevin Townson but the Englishman's shot was denied by the wood-work.

Midway through the half the Knights should have had their equaliser when a sublime through ball released Adrian Zahra on goal, with only the keeper to beat. As Zahra stormed into the box the youngster tripped over his own feet giving the keeper Steven Tilovski the opportunity he needed to clean up the ball.

The rest of the half saw a tight struggle between the two sides and though there weren't many chances both sides were playing with a high level of intensity, showing the importance of the match.

Early in the second half Heidelberg doubled their lead through a defensive error from Ben Surrey. The defender seemed to be day dreaming inside the Knights box as Alexovski snuck in, stealing the ball off Surrey and slotting the ball past a hapless Mattei.

Barely a few minutes later and the Knights pulled a goal back to bring themselves back into the game. The goal came from a corner that was initially well punched away by Tilovski, the Knights kept possession of the ball sending in a cross which Townson expertly finished from in front of goal.

On the 62 minute mark a ball from a Knights free kick fell to Josip Magdic inside the box, the midfielder couldn't get the ball under control as he sent the ball wide of the mark.

Magdic was again in the thick of the action soon after. A brilliant Damien Gleize cross went straight to Magdic in the crowded box, the midfielder connected with a poorly taken volley that sent the ball meters over the crossbar.

The Knights continued to push hard until the very end as they desperately searched for an equaliser, but the Heidelberg defence did well to snuff out each attack.

With only two minutes remaining Heidelberg killed off the hopes of the

Knights, as they put away their 3rd goal to clinch the three points. Yet again it proved to be a dreadful mistake by Surrey that led to the goal. What should have been an easy clearance for Surrey turned into disaster as he failed to control a simple ball, sending it into the path of a Heidelberg forward.

The Knights keeper reacted quickly coming off his line and intercepting the initial shot, but George Slefendorfas made no mistake with the follow up as he knocked the loose ball into the open goal.

The win now sees Heidelberg sitting in 11th position on the ladder. This Sunday the side will be on the road as they travel to Broadmeadows Valley Park to take on the high flying Hume City.

While the Knights will take on Knights Stadium co-tenants Sunshine George Cross in the Sunshine derby, also on Sunday. With the Knights now on the bottom of the ladder, nothing less than 3 points will be needed if the side is to save itself from relegation.



Action from last night's late game between Heidelberg United and Melbourne Knights. PHOTO: DANIEL FLIS



VPL Standings Round 13

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Oakleigh Cannons	13	8	3	2	24	14	27
Richmond	12	8	1	3	22	15	25
Hume City	13	7	3	3	25	20	21
Bentleigh Greens	11	4	3	4	14	17	15
Sunshine George Cross	13	4	3	6	14	24	15
Northcote City	12	4	2	6	18	15	14
Green Gully Cavaliers	13	4	2	7	15	17	14
South Melbourne	11	5	4	2	21	13	13
Dandenong Thunder	13	4	3	6	11	20	12
Heidelberg Utd	12	3	5	4	21	25	11
Altona Magic	12	2	4	6	16	17	10
Melbourne Knights	13	3	3	7	16	20	9



VPL Round 14

<b>N.T.C v Bentleigh Greens</b> <i>Kingston Heath Soccer Complex</i> <i>Wed 2 Jun KO 8:30PM</i>	
<b>Richmond v Dandenong Thunder</b> <i>Kevin Bartlett Reserve</i> <i>Fri 4 Jun KO 8:30PM</i>	<b>Hume City v Heidelberg Utd</b> <i>Broadmeadows Valley Park</i> <i>Sun 6 Jun KO 3:00PM</i>
<b>Altona Magic v Bentleigh Greens</b> <i>Paisley Park</i> <i>Sat 5 Jun KO 7:00PM</i>	<b>Sunshine George Cross v Melb Knights</b> <i>Knights Stadium</i> <i>Sun 6 Jun KO 5:00PM</i>
<b>South Melbourne v Northcote City</b> <i>John Cain Memorial Park</i> <i>Sun 6 Jun KO 3:00PM</i>	<b>Oakleigh Cannons v Green Gully</b> <i>Jack Edwards Reserve</i> <i>Mon 7 Jun KO 8:15PM</i>

VPL Under 21s									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pt	
South Melbourne	13	10	2	1	39	18	32		Green Gully Cavaliers 2
Oakleigh Cannons	14	7	5	2	36	25	26		Richmond 0
N.T.C	14	6	5	3	41	24	23		
Northcote City	13	6	3	4	35	27	21		
Richmond	13	6	2	5	26	22	20		Dandenong Thunder 1
Bentleigh Greens	12	6	0	6	22	21	18		Hume City 3
Green Gully Cavaliers	14	5	2	7	21	38	17		
Heidelberg Utd	11	6	1	4	21	14	16		Altona Magic 6
Hume City	13	5	3	5	27	25	15		Sunshine George Cross 0
Altona Magic	14	4	3	7	17	25	15		
Sunshine George Cross	14	4	1	9	20	40	13		Northcote City 3
Melbourne Knights	12	3	2	7	15	21	8		Oakleigh Cannons 3
Dandenong Thunder	13	1	3	9	14	34	6		





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